A Christian
And
Visions and Dreams

Fredrick G. Omondi

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from King James Version of the Holy Bible.

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INTRODUCTION

Dreams are a common experience to many people in life and normally do convey a message to the dreamer. Unfortunately, many people never come to know or understand the meaning of their dream. Another thing that people do experience are visions though not to many people and also are not as common as night dreams, and even these, many fail to understand what they could be all about.

As one reads the holy scriptures one will find that God frequently used to communicate to people in dreams and sometimes in visions and that includes even today as God never changes (Hebrews 13:8) and therefore he is still using the same means of communication in addition to other obvious ways like talking in an audible voice, in his word when read, taught or preached by his ministers as well as indirectly in situations such as earthquakes, famine and pestilences.

For Christians dreams and visions are for their personal direction and destiny, that is, they are unveiled therein.

In this book I am going to dwell mainly on the various dreams and visions of individuals as is recorded in the Holy Bible and just a brief on the interpretation of the same and not giving any details, which of course is beyond the scope of this book and I am not well conversant on the same save at my personal level and to some extent. I do believe that the book will be an eye opener and will provoke you to now take a keen interest at your dreams or visions in order to take appropriate action as necessary. Definitely there must be other Authors who God has enabled them to understand the subject in much detail to help many people understand and be of much use to them. From today henceforth don't just brush away a dream or a vision if you happen to have one and I advise you can pray to God to reveal to you what it means because many can be in symbols and

you may never have an idea at all of what it entails.

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Chapter 1

A glance at Visions and Dreams

A vision can be likened to a seed which God deposits in one's heart waiting for its time of germination in order to mature and produce the desired result/fruit. But every vision has its timing in God and therefore one with God's vision must be patient and persevering as normally it hardly takes a short time for its final fulfillment:

A vision is an initiation process by God and one must undergo preparation time for it to be actualized.

Visions and dreams are God's dark speeches as one may sometimes not clearly comprehend the message/s but alternatively in another way he speaks directly and openly face to face and mouth to mouth in an audible voice which is clearly understood.

And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle,

and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

Numbers 12:5-8

You can also read the following on the same – Exodus 3:1-5, Genesis 41:1-36 and Daniel 2, 9.

Let us look at the following scriptures as illustrated lesson on the same.

AND he began again to teach by the seaside: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat

in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.

And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine,

Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow:

And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up.

And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprung up, because it had no depth of earth:

But when the sun was up, it was scotched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

And other fell on good ground, and it did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some a hundred. And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Mark 4:1-9

God is a sower, a spiritual sower, who as he pleases can sow a seed in the form of a vision in one's spirit and one need to prepare a conducive environment by prayer and even fasting and to act appropriately as is directed by God's Spirit.

And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast:
The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.
And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.
Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

John 12:20-24

Jesus as the bread of life knew that he had to undergo a process before he could bring people back to God their Creator. He therefore likened

himself to a corn of wheat which need to die to spring forth bringing much fruit. Jesus just meant his death on the cross for the remission of man's sins (John 3:16, Romans 3:23-26). He knew that by passing through death and resurrection he will have opened a way to God completing God's plan of redemption of mankind and millions and millions of people would come to God through him and not just a few as the Greeks who wanted to see him; but all those who will call on his name for salvation (Acts 2:36-41, Romans 10:9-13, 1 Timothy 2:5-6).

Visions and dreams are but open windows into the supernatural (the spiritual realms) and most of them do happen to us at night although on occasion may happen in the day as it happened to apostle Peter (Acts 10:9-23).

From the scriptures it is clear that only Christians do see visions unlike dreams which is for believers and none believers as well. The unfortunate thing is that many don't grasp the meaning of a dream or a vision to their

disadvantage. As I said in my introduction, dreams and visions do convey a message to the receiver and which in many cases may not be direct for one to quickly or easily understand what it is all about as some or let me say most of them are in symbols for example a building, an animal, a vehicle, rain, piece of furniture, a ditch and so on. Ordinarily if you dream of seeing any of those things can you know for sure what it means to you? But therein lies a message.

Therefore it is advisable to ask God to reveal to you what he has told you in a dream or a vision. As visions and dreams affect lives, it is obvious that one pray over them for only God's will to be done. And that need be done immediately one wakes up from the dream or vision.

It is important for one to take up the vision given by God and to run with it and not to leave it hanging in the heart. If one does not take it, someone else shall take it and that is, the Devil and therefore it will not come to pass as he is a destroyer and a thief.

AND he began again to teach by the seaside: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.

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hundred. And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable.

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these are done in parables:

That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?

The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

Mark 4:1-15

A vision is a message from God needing action by the receiver. It is a word from God and he

sows it in our hearts and therefore we need not let it unattended to and thereby leaving room for the enemy to take it away and thereby not bear fruit in us. Remember the warnings to the churches by the Lord (Revelation 2:24-25; 3:10-11).

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 10:9-10

Definitely you know who is the door and who is the thief. Don't ever give the thief a chance in your life as for sure he will destroy it. But do constantly obey giving chance to the one that gives eternal life and lead in green pastures and still waters (John 11:21-26, Psalm 23:1-3).
Apostle Paul received a vision from God and ran with it and it was fruitful.

Now when they had gone throughout Phryg'-i-a and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

After they were come to Mys'-i-a, they assayed to go into Bi-thyn'-ia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

And they passing by Mys'-i-a came down to Tro'-as.

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Mac-e-do'-ni-a, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Mac-e-do'-ni-a, and help us.

And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Mac-e-do'-ni-a, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

Therefore loosing from Tro'-as, we came with a straight course to Sam-o-thra'-ci-a, and the next day to Ne-a'-po-lis;

And from thence to Phil'-ippi, which is the chief city of that part of Mac-e-do'-ni-a, and a

colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a riverside, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thy-a-ti'-ra, which worshiped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

And when she was baptized and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Acts 16:6-15

We can see from the above account that the Lord saved not one person but a whole household as a result of Apostle Paul believing God and acting on it and not wasting any time. Apostle Peter too received a vision from God after Cornelius had also received one from God

and all of the got into action and there was much fruit for the Lord (Acts 10).
In the Old Testament we find that God had told the prophet Habakkuk to take the vision given and to run with it and he believed God at his word.

Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them from judgment; and O, mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.
Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?
And maketh men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?
They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.

Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous.

Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?

I WILL stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk 1:12-2:4

The prophet Habakkuk had a problem as he knew the character of God who does not tolerate wickedness and yet here was Babylon a heathen nation going about conquering nation

after nation and even besieging Jerusalem the holy city of the Jews! But God was but quiet and seemed not to punish those Chaldeans! God answered the prophet in a vision that his purposes must come to pass and that the vision is but at an appointed time when it must surely come to pass even if it seems to take long.

God further told him that the just shall live by his faith meaning even the Jews need to continue to believe what he says be it good or bad to them as for sure it must come to pass.

To be proud in heart is not uprightness but humility and faith in the Holy One of Israel is. By taking the vision of God as true (and acting on it) is showing one's faith in him as true faith is essentially obedience to the word of God (James 2:14-26) as the life of faith is a life of obedience and which is life indeed (1 John 2:17).

Now dreams have their source where they come from and they don't just come from nowhere but come from somewhere. The sources are as follows hereunder.

Dreams from God

For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberrings upon the bed;

Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction,

That he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man.

Job 33:14-17

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

Joel 2:28

For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

For **I know the thoughts that I think towards you,** saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 29:10-11

God reassured the children of Israel through the prophet Jeremiah that he had good thoughts on them and that it was just a matter of time and he will cause them to return back to their land and that it was going to be well. The same do apply to born again Christians who are his children (John 1:11-13) who too he has good thoughts on them, thoughts of peace and not of evil to have them in heaven with him eternally (John 14:1-3). I believe God's thoughts may come as a dream and when it does, will always be consistent with the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 2:10-12, Hebrews 13:8)

Dreams from Satan

When I say, My bed shall comfort me, my couch shall ease my complaint;

Then thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through visions:

So that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life.

Job 7:13-15

Dreams from Satan often instills fear in people's lives. Bad dreams/nightmares when comes to a believer one need not believe them but to cancel them immediately in the name of the Lord, from them happening in life. Remember that Satan has no good thoughts on a believer but evil ones; for destruction. I do remember when I had backslidden in salvation, I used to have bad dreams almost on a daily basis. Most likely the enemy was using them to have me become hopeless and not to trust in God any more. But the God of peace (Isaiah 9:6) had good thoughts on me and brought a great deliverance and restoration in my life. The above account can be found in my book entitled 'A Christian and How not to backslide'. On the other hand, some bad dream may be a telltale sign that one is living in some sin and is being warned to repent of the sin and turn away from it lest one is judged. On bad dreams quickly

examine your life if there is any sin and repent of it before taking any other action, but if one is very sure of living holy and godly, ignore but cancel the dream and speak good words in your life.

Dreams from the soul

For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words.

Ecclesiastes 5:3

Now there you are, with the sources of dreams and visions. Christians are the children of God as are born of the Spirit (John 1:10-13; 3:1-6) and God being their heavenly Father (Matthew 6:5-13) cares and therefore most dreams and visions are more likely to come from him as he is a Spirit (John 4:24) and also the Omniscient One and therefore knows all that shall come to pass in advance and can convey the same to his children as and when necessary through his Spirit (John 16:13) in a dream or a vision.

Going by the scriptures, it seems that only truly born-again Christians see visions probably because as God's children he does not want them to perish for lacking knowledge but rather want them to reach their true/rightful destiny in their lives. The only exception is with the case of Saul and Cornelius all of which God had purpose for them as all came to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (Acts 9:1-18; 10:1-8; 24-48, Romans 8:28-30).

A sure way of knowing a dream or a vision is from God is that God will never instruct you to do what is evil but instead to do what is righteous and to remain holy as he cannot contradict his word in the holy scriptures. He will always be in consistence with the Holy Bible.

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Proverbs 29:18

Surely the LORD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

Amos 3:7

Chapter 2

The visions of Abram and Jacob

AFTER these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this El-i-e'-zer of Damascus?

And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.

And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Cha'-dees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

And he said unto him, Take me a heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and turtledove, and a young pigeon.

And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.

And when the fowls came down upon the carcases, Abram drove them away.

And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, a horror of great darkness fell upon him.

And he said unto Abram, know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in good old age.

But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Am'-o-rites is not yet full.

Genesis 15:1-16

AND Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beer-she'-ba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac.

And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will make of thee a great nation: I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.

Genesis 46:1-4

From the look of things God was giving Abram and Jacob (Israel) spiritual direction to prepare

them well in advance of what lies ahead. God still do the same today in dreams and visions.

The vision of Isaiah

Chapter 3

In this chapter we are going to look at the vision that Isaiah saw.

IN the year that king Uz'-zi'-ah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

Above it stood the ser'-a-phim: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Then flew one of the ser'-a-phim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes; and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate,

And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.

Isaiah 6

Chapter 4

The Visions of Ezekiel

In this chapter we are going to look at the visions that Ezekiel saw.

NOW it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Che'-bar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of Je-hoi'-a-chin's captivity,

The word of the LORD came expressly unto E-zek'-iel the priest, the son of Bu'-zi, in the land of the Chal-de'-ans by the river Che'-bar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him.

And I looked, and behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their

appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and everyone had four wings.

And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the color of burnished brass.

And they had the hands of man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings.

Their wings were joined one to another, they turned not when they went; they went everyone straight forward.

As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies.

And they went everyone straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lighting.

And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces.

The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the color of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went.

As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four.

And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the color of

the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.

And under the firmament were their wings straight, the one toward the other: every one had two which covered on this side, and every one had two, which covered on that side, their bodies.

And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech, as the noise of a host: when they stood, they let down their wings.

And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness of the appearance of a man above upon it.

And I saw as the color of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had the brightness round about.

As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell down upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Ezekiel 1

You can also read in the same book and chapters 8, 9, 10 and 37 respectively.

Chapter 5

The Visions of Daniel

In this chapter we are going to look at the visions Daniel saw.

IN the first year of Bel-shaz'-zar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

And behold, another beast, a second like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the

teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four heads; and dominion was given to it.

After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

And there was given him dominion and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this.

So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever.

Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was stout than his fellows.

I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall arise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

Daniel 7

IN the third year of the reign of king Bel-shaz'zar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shu'-shan in the palace, which is in the province of E'-lam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of U'-lai.

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which

had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

And as I was considering, behold, a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east and toward the pleasant land.

And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of

desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

And it came to pass, when I even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.

And I heard a man's voice between the banks of U'-lai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at a time of the end shall be the vision.

Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the time shall be.

The ram which thou sawest having two horns, are the kings of Me'-di-a and Persia.

And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

Now that being broken, where as four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward rose up, and did the king's business and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Daniel 8

IN the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Bel-te-shaz'-zar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hid'-de-kel;

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of U'-phaz:

His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and feet like a color to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.

Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

And, behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the Palms of my hands.

And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, am I am come for thy words.

But, the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.

And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my Lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of man, and he strengthened me,

And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong.

And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

Then said, he, Knowest thou wherefore I came unto thee? and now will I return to fight with

the prince of Persia; and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

But I will show thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

Daniel 10

Chapter 6

The vision of Obadiah

In this chapter we are going to look at the vision that Obadiah saw.

THE vision of O-ba-di'-ah. Thus, saith the Lord God concerning E'-dom; We have heard a rumor from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle.

Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised.

The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.

If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? If the grape

gatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes?

How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up!

All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the man that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him.

Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even, destroy the wise men out of E'-dom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?

And thy mighty men, O Te'-man, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee and thou shalt be cut off forever.

In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into

his gates and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them.

But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldest not have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

Neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.

For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall holiness; and the house of Jacob shall posses their possessions.

And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau for (the LORD hath spoken it.

And they of the south shall possess the mount of Esau; and they of the plain the Phil-is-tines: and they shall possess the fields of E'-phra-im and the fields of Sa-mar'-i-a: and Benjamin shall possess Gil'-e-ad.

And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel shall possess that of the Ca'-na-an-ites, even unto Zar'-e-phath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Se-phar'-ad, shall possess the cities of the south.

And the saviors shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.

Obadiah

Chapter 7

The vision of Nahum

In this chapter we are going to see the vision that Nahum saw.

THE burden of Nin'-e-veh. The book of the vision of Nahum the El'-ko-shite.

God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.

The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are dust of his feet.

He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Ba'-shan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Leb'-a-non languisheth.

The mountains quake at him and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

Who can stand before his indignation? And who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

What do ye imagine against the LORD? He will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

There is one come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the LORD, a wicked counselor.

Thus saith the LORD; though they be quite and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more.

For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder

And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

Nahum 1

Chapter 8

The Visions of Zechariah

In this chapter we are going to look at the visions that Zechariah saw.

IN the eight month, in the second year of Da-ri'-us, came the word of the LORD unto Zech-a-ri'-ah, the son of Ber-e-chi'-ah, the son of Id'-do the prophet, saying,

The LORD hath been sore displeased with your fathers.

Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts.

Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings: but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me, saith the LORD.

Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live for ever?

But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? and they returned and said, Like as the LORD of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us.

Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month which is the month Se'-bat, in the second year of Da-ri-us, came the word of the LORD unto Zech-a-ri'-ah, the son of Ber-e-chi'-ah, the son of Id'-do the prophet, saying,

I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white.

Then said I, O my Lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will show thee what these be.

And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth.

And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said,

We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.

Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, O LORD of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these three score and ten years?

And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words.

So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

Therefore thus saith the LORD; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be

built in it, saith the LORD of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; my cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What be these? And he answered me, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.

And the LORD showed me four carpenters.

Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.

Zechariah 1

I LIFTED up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.

Then said I, Whither goest thou?

And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him,

And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying; Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein:

For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD.

Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me.

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD.

And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

Zechariah 2

AND he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

And the LORD said to Satan,

The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him.

And unto him he said, behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head.

So they set a fair metre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by,

And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying,

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt

also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree.

Zechariah 3

AND the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep,

And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his

seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Ze-rub'-ba-bel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Who art thou, O great mountain? before Ze-rub'-ba-bel, thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shouting, crying, Grace, grace, unto it.

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The hands of Ze-rub'-ba-bel, have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also

finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Ze-rub'-ba-bel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof?

And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?

And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.

Zechariah 4

You can also read chapter 5 and 6 respectively.

Chapter 9

The Vision of John

In this chapter we are going to look at the vision of John who was an apostle of Jesus Christ.

THE Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the prince of kings of the earth.
Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,
And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. A'-men.
Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, A'-men.
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.
I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom of patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.
I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,
Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book,

and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Eph-e-sus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Per'-ga-mos, and unto Thy-a-ti'-ra, and unto Sar'-dis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto La-od-i-ce'-a.

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

His head and his hairs were white as like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, A'-men; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Revelation 1

Chapter 10

The Vision of Peter

In this chapter we are going to look at the vision that Peter an apostle of Jesus Christ saw.

On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

Wherein were all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth; and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.

And the voice spake unto him again the second time, what God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

Acts 10:9-20

Chapter 11

The visions of Paul

In this chapter we are going to look at the visions that Paul saw.

THEN came he to Der'-be and Lys'-tra: and behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lys'-tra: and I-co'-ni-um.

Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily;

Now when they had gone throughout Phryg'-i-a and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

After they were come to Mys'-i-a, they assayed to go into Bi-thyn'-i-a: but the Spirit suffered them not.

And they passing by Mys'-i-a came down to Tro'-as.

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Mac-e-do'-ni-a, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Mac-e-do'-ni-a, and help us.

And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into

Mac-e-do'-ni-a, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

Acts 16:1-10

AFTER these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;

And found a certain Jew named Aq'-uila, born in Pontus, lately came from Italy, with his wife

Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: (for by their occupation they were tent makers.)

And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

And when Silas and Timothy were come from Mac-e-do'-ni-a, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.

And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshiped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.

And Cris'-pus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and

many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

For I am with thee: for I have much people in this city.

And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Acts 18:1-11

And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance;

And I saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.

Acts 22:17-18

AND Paul earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.

And the high priest An-a-ni'-as commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth.

Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law?

And they that stood by said, Revilest thou God's high priest?

Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler, of thy people.

But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sad'-du-cees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sad'-du-cees: and the multitude was divided.

For the Sad'-du-cees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, no spirit: but the Pharisees confess both.

And there arose a great cry: and the scribes that were of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, We find no evil in this man: but if a spirit or an angel hath spoken to him, let us not fight against God.

And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle.

And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said,

Be of good cheer Paul: for thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome:

Acts 23:1-11

And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship;

And the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship.

And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should, be saved was then taken away.

But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

Acts 27:18-24

IT is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or

whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth, such a one caught up to the third heaven:

And I knew such a man, (whether in the body or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Of such a one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.

For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should, think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

In the New Testament Paul had many visions just as John had many visions as well. In the Old Testament too we find Ezekiel and Daniel had seen many visions.

Chapter 12

The vision of Stephen

In this chapter we are going to look at the vision that Stephen saw.

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly unto heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God.

And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God,

Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stooped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus receive my spirit.

And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:54-60

In the above scripture if you read from the beginning of the chapter Stephen had earlier been arrested for no apparent reason towards the end of chapter six and here now in chapter seven Stephen in his defense expounded on the scriptures to his audience (those who had arrested him) so much such that they were much irritated and took upon themselves to stone Stephen to death and for sure Stephen slept in the Lord for the truth; that is, for Christ's sake, as the scriptures do say (Matthew 5:10-12, Revelation 14:13).

Chapter 13

The Vision of Ananias

AND Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven.

And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

And he was three days without sight and neither did eat nor drink.

And there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou comest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

And when he had received meat he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

Acts 9:1-22

Chapter 14

The dreams of Jacob

In this chapter we are going to see the dreams of Jacob which he dreamt.

And Jacob went out from Beer-she'-ba, and went toward Har'-an.

And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and

in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.

And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

And he called the name of that place Beth-el: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go,

and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on,

So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God:

And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Genesis 28:10-22

AND he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory.

And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before.

And the LORD said unto Jacob,

Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindled; and I will be with thee.

And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock,

And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.

And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me.

If he said thus, The speckled shall be my wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ring-streaked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ring-streaked.

Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me.

And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived, that I lifted up mine eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the rams which leaped upon the cattle were ring-streaked, speckled, and grizzled.

And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: and I said, Here am I.

And he said, lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle are ring-streaked, speckled, and grizzled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee.

I am the God of Beth-el, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, set thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

Genesis 31:1-13

Chapter 15

The dreams of Joseph

In this chapter we are going to see the dreams of Joseph that he dreamt.

AND Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.

These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bil'-hah, and with the sons of Zilp-ah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors.

And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

And his brethren said to him, shalt thou indeed reign over us? and they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come, to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

Genesis 37:1-11

Chapter 16

The dream of Solomon

In this chapter we are going to look at the dream that Solomon dreamt.

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

And the king went to Gib'-eon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

In Gib'-eon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

Behold, I have done according to thy words: Lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like

thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honor: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

1 Kings 3:3-15

Chapter 17

The dream of Daniel

In this chapter we are going to look at the dream of Daniel which he dreamt.

IN the first year of Bel-shaz'-zar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

And behold, another beast, a second like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the

teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four heads; and dominion was given to it.

After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

And there was given him dominion and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 7:1-14

Chapter 18

The dream of Nebuchadnezzar

In this chapter we are going to look at the dream of Nebuchadnezzar which he dreamt.

I Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar was set at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace:

I saw a dream which made me afraid, and thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream.

Then came in the magicians the astrologers, the Chal-de'-ans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

But at the last came in before me, whose name was Bel-te-shaz'-zar, according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying,

O Bel-te-shaz'-zar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great.

The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth:

The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and a holy one came down from heaven;

He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get

away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth.

Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.

This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

This dream I king Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar have seen. Now thou, O Bel-te-shaz'-zar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou are able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.

Daniel 4:4-18

Chapter 19

The dreams of Joseph

In this chapter we are going to look at the dreams of Joseph which he dreamt.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, behold, a virgin shall be with child, and

shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Im-man'-u-el, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

And knew her not till she had brought forth her first-born son: and he called his name JESUS.

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born king of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

When Herod the king heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Beth-lehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of

thee shall come a governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Beth-lehem, and said, Go and search and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed, and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshiped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt.

And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Matthew 1:18- 2:15

Chapter 20

A brief on interpretation of dreams and visions

This last chapter I am going to dwell on the interpretation of dreams and visions and not on the finer details but only giving some clues or guides as I said earlier, the details on interpretation of dreams and visions is beyond the scope of this book and also I am not more conversant on the interpretations.

From the onset let me say that God has given Christians the ability to interpret dreams and visions and only them can interpret a dream or a vision.

As we read in the first chapter dreams and visions are spiritual issues and it follows therefore that only the spiritual may be in a position to come to understand and interpret a dream or a vision.

Dreams and visions are spiritual issues as their sources are spiritual. Let us look at the following scripture to see what it has to say.

Now we have received, not the spirit of this world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Apostle Paul in writing to the church at Corinth reminded the brethren that the Spirit of God in them can enable them to discern spiritual matters by comparing the spiritual with the spiritual and that to have the Holy Spirit is

equated to having the mind of Christ. Jesus Christ and God are one (John 10:30; 1:1-2). But be keen and sober in evaluating a dream, or a vision and know first its possible source before acting on it as necessary. Look at your life and current situation and do compare with the dream or vision to see if it touches on your past life, present life or future. In order to know what it means one need to ask oneself such questions as these in order to have a clue ‘who is it addressed to, me or to somebody else?; ‘what are the places and circumstances?; what words or actions that are in it?; what is it really?; such probing questions may lead one to come to understand and be able to interpret it.

Now let us look at some scriptures that do corroborate the fact that only Christians can interpret dreams and visions as they are in God’s family being his children.

THE same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.

And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:

And when the sun was up, they were scotched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:

But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty fold, some thirty fold.

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?

He answered and said unto them, because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

Matthew 13:1-11

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

1 John 2:27

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 14:25-26

In the above scripture (Matthew 13: 1-11) we find Jesus was teaching about a sower who went forth to sow and he presented it in a

parable and ended saying that one that had ears to hear, let him hear. Now when the disciples asked him why he spoke to the multitudes in parables? he answered them saying that it is because they (the disciples) God had given them to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but not to the multitudes. It follows therefore that only the true believers in Christ Jesus God has given the ability to discern spiritual matters (heavenly matters). One may ask why is it so? It is so because true believers in Christ Jesus do receive the Holy Spirit who is a Comforter to believers and make them understand spiritual matters by teaching them as is explained in the other two scriptures that follow (John 14:25-26 and 1 John 2:27) respectively.

All things stated in the above two scriptures include understanding to interpret even dreams and visions which in themselves are mysteries in the spiritual realms.

Get to know that dreams and visions are hidden truths that are revealed to mankind of things

that are in the spiritual realm before hand for their action as appropriate as they are messages (coded messages) that need to be deciphered, hence the need of God's anointing to decipher them for their usefulness. Get to know also that only Christians have had their spiritual eyes and ears opened as are quickened by the Holy Spirit and are alive unlike the non believers which are still closed and deadened by sin (Ephesians 2:1-6).

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him the more.
And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:
For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.
And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

Genesis 37:5-11

Both the brethren of Joseph as well as their father accurately had interpreted Joseph's dream because it all came to pass when he was sold to the Ishmaelites and brought to Egypt where he rose to second in command in Egypt after king Pharaoh and there was famine and Joseph's brethren went to Egypt to look for corn and later even his father joined Joseph in Egypt and was given land there. At the time Joseph was the Governor in Egypt.

AND it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt, and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt.

And Pharaoh was wroth against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers.

And he put them in the ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.

And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: and they continued a season in ward.

And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, which were bound in the prison.

And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's houses, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly today?

And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it.

And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me then, I pray you.

And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, in my dream, behold, a vine was before me;

And in the vine were three branches: and it was as though it budded, and her blossoms shot forth; and the clusters there of brought forth ripe grapes:

And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand: and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.

And Joseph said unto him, This is the interpretation of it:

The three branches are three days:

Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thine head, and restore thee unto thy place: and thou

shalt deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when thou wast his butler.

But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house:

For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews: and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon.

When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said unto Joseph, I also was in my dream, and, behold, I had three white baskets on my head:

And in the uppermost basket there was all manner of bake meats for Pharaoh; and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head.

And Joseph answered and said, This is the interpretation thereof: The three baskets are three days:

Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a

tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee.

And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants: and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants.

And he restored the chief butler unto his butlership again; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand:

But he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them.

Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgat him.

Genesis 40

From the above account we see that the two servants of Pharaoh the king of Egypt both the butler and the baker dreamed and their dreams brought sadness to them as there was no interpreter as they themselves could not interpret them. Joseph told them that interpretations belong to God and he further asked them to tell him of their dreams that

means, he was with God and therefore had the ability to interpret their dreams. Now there you are. One must be with God to be in a position to interpret a dream. To be with God is to be with the Holy Spirit as God is a Spirit. We see Joseph he had no problem at all in interpreting the dreams and which he accurately interpreted as all the dreams came to pass as Joseph had interpreted them. Get to know that God was with Joseph (Genesis 39:1-3, 20-23). Now do you know why the chief butler did not remember Joseph after he had been restored to his job? He lacked kindness as he had no Holy Spirit in him, kindness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22)

AND it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river.
And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well-favored kine and fat fleshed; and they fed in a meadow.

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean-fleshed; and stood by the other kine upon the brink of the river.

And the ill-favored and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well-favored and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke.

And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

Pharaoh was wrath with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

And there was there with us a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard a say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.

And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fat-fleshed and well-favored; and they fed in a meadow:

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill-favored and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness:

And the lean and the ill-favored kine did eat up the first seven fat kine:

And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill-favored, as at the beginning. So I awoke.

And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good:

And, behold, seven thin ears withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the thin ears devoured the seven good ones: and I told this unto the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.

And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath showed Pharaoh what he is about to do.

The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years; the dream is one.

And the seven thin and ill-favored kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

This is the thing that I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he showeth unto Pharaoh.

Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Genesis 41:1-32

Even in the above account we are told there was no interpreter to interpret to pharaoh the king of Egypt what he had dreamt. The magicians and the wise men of Egypt all of them could not fathom the meaning of the king's dream. Joseph came up handy and with much humility told the king that God and not him was going to answer the king on the dream. For sure he was right in that not him as Joseph could answer him but God in him/with him- Immanuel (who is with believers in Christ Jesus- Matthew 1:23).

I do believe God intentionally gave that dream to the king who had power to have Joseph released from the dungeon and whom the chief

butler did not show kindness to him to mention him to the king.

God knew that it was strategic to give the king the dream knowing only Joseph could interpret the dream so that he receives the king's pardon and be released from prison. The same God who was still with Joseph reminded the chief butler to now remember Joseph and inform the king about him. God knew of the great famine that was going to come to the land of Egypt and it would have been of no use to inform Joseph in a dream about it as he would still be in prison and most likely he could do nothing about it as most probably no one would have taken him seriously if he told them and therefore he would have perished just as the people of Egypt. For sure God has good plans for those that are called by his name and make events happen for their good (Jeremiah 29:10-11, Romans 8:28).

The interpretation of the dream of the king of Egypt by Joseph came to pass just as he had said it would be.

AND in the second year of the reign of Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar, Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chal-de'-ans, for to show the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

Then spake the Chal-de'-ans to the king in Syr'-i-ac, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.

The king answered and said to the Chal-de'-ans, the thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

But if ye show the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards

and great honor: therefore show me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation of it.

The king answered and said, I know of a certainty that ye would gain time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can show me the interpretation thereof.

The Chal-de'-ans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can show the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chal-de'-an.

And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Ar'-i-och the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:

He answered and said to Ar'-i-och the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Ar'-i-och made the thing known to Daniel.

Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation.

Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Han-a-ni'-ah, Mesh'-ael, and Az-a-ri'-ah, his companions: That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should

not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel answered and said, blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and mind are his:

And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

I thank thee, and praise thee O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

Therefore Daniel went in unto Ar'-i-och, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him;

Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will show unto the king the interpretation.

Then Ar'-i-och brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Bel-te-shaz'-zar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?

Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the sooth sayers, show unto the king;

But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar what shall be in the latter days.

Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass

hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.

This image's head was of fine gold, his breasts and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

Thou sawest till that a stone was cut without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them

away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potter's clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the

strength of iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Daniel 2:1-45

The dream of the king of Babylon troubled him just as the dream of the king of Egypt troubled that king too and in both their cases, they had commanded the wrong people to interpret for them their dreams. Those were without the God of heaven and were totally unable to interpret their dreams. Daniel informed his companions, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah of what was in the offing that their lives were in danger and they decided to pray to their God, the God of Israel. The God of Israel who is the judge of all the earth and is Righteous and could not allow the destruction of the righteous (Genesis 18:22-25) and revealed the secret to Daniel so as to save these Hebrew boys from Judah from being slain. Just as Joseph humbled himself on the issue of interpreting dreams and ascribed glory to the God of heaven, Daniel too who was also God fearing did the same before king Nebuchadnezzar. I wish all Christians were like them, unfortunately not all of us are humble enough. Read also chapter 4 and 5 in the book

of Daniel and you see that interpretation of dreams and visions have been left to Christians (the Church of Christ).

Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,
Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.
Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.
As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Daniel 1:11-13, 17

Chapter 21

The Exception on visions

The following incidents seems to be the only exception recorded in the Scripture of non believers to have seen a vision from God.

THERE was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, A devout man, and one that feared God with all h is house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always.

He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

And now send men to Joppa, and call for a one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

He lodgeth with one Simon atanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;
And when he had declared all these things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

Acts 10:1-8

AND Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,
And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:
And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him into Damascus.

And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias; And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and o into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for behold, he prayeth,

And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

Acts 9:1-15

As I said above, these seem to be exceptions. God in his wisdom it seems saw it fit to show Cornelius and Saul a vision as an initiation on the process of their conversion to Christ Jesus and most probably also to fulfill the scripture in the epistle of Paul to the church in Rome (Romans 8:28-30)

Notes to the reader

I thank you for reading this book and hope and trust that it has been most helpful to you. In case you have any comments please write to us using the address below.

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