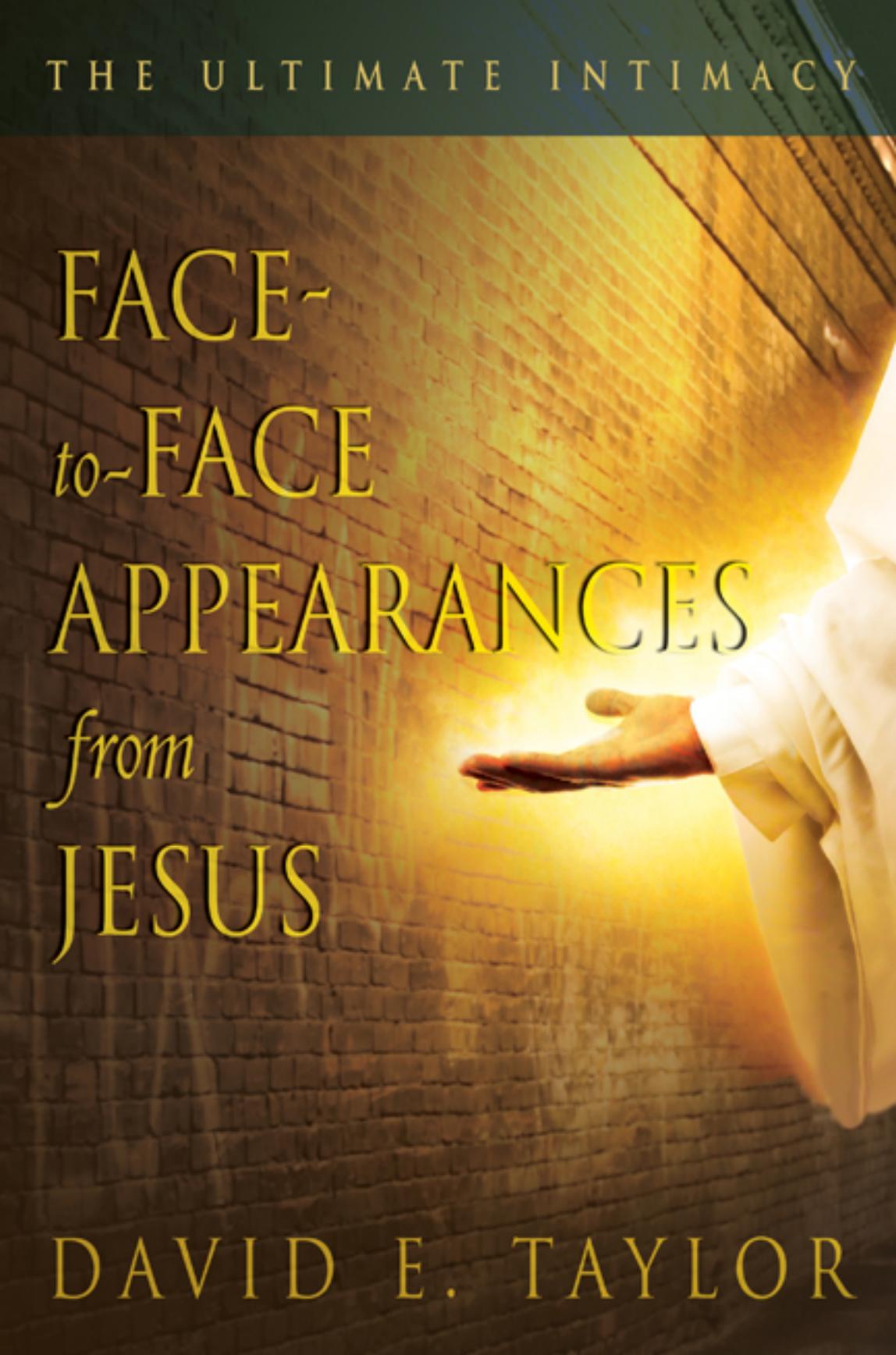


THE ULTIMATE INTIMACY

FACE-
to-FACE
APPEARANCES
from
JESUS

A close-up photograph of a person's face and hand, likely Jesus, with a glowing light emanating from the hand against a brick wall background. The person's face is partially visible on the right side, looking down. The hand is extended towards the center, with a bright, golden light radiating from it. The background is a textured brick wall.

DAVID E. TAYLOR

FACE-*to*-FACE
APPEARANCES
from JESUS

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Due to the revelatory nature of these encounters and because of the author's desire to preserve a very intimate and personal reading experience, editorial license was taken to maintain the emotional impact of the stories as they were told.

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Dedication

*To Jesus, my Best Friend
who is the very reason for my being,
who has stood with me through
the darkest times of my life.
To the person of the Holy Spirit,
who is also my Friend and closest companion.*

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INTRODUCTION OF PURPOSE

The Confirmation of This Book

In the process of writing this book, I received two major confirmations from the Lord that this was the time to write, finish, and release this message. The first came during the month of September in 2008. I was asleep, and I heard a voice saying, “*I want you to be finished with the book on face-to-face appearances by December.*” Then suddenly I awoke. I knew this was the voice of the Lord speaking to me. He was giving me a deadline on a book (which, may I add, He had never done before). The second confirmation came during the preparation of this book. From September until December 1, 2008, the Lord supernaturally graced me to put down on paper almost every experience that He wanted in this book! That in itself is a miracle, and I give Him thanks. But the second confirmation came from one of my staff who was helping me type this book so that it would be ready by

December. This supernatural confirmation showed me the gravity of this book.

One day as this young man was working on the book, a friend from high school that he hadn't heard from in five years e-mailed him. To make a long story short, they basically start catching up on lost time when my staff member's friend asked him, "Have you ever heard of Jesus appearing to people?" Now, this person did not know that he was working on a book about face-to-face encounters with Jesus because he hadn't mentioned it. Sensing that this was a supernatural confirmation, he held his cool and asked her, "Why would you ask me something like this?" Then the friend replied, "There have been people around me that have come up to me saying, 'Jesus has been appearing to me in dreams and talking to me.'" She mentioned that two to three people had come to her and told her that Jesus had appeared to them in dreams and talked with them.

This young lady was not even saved when she emailed my staff member on December 4, 2008. When the young man in my office told me this, I thought to myself, "What are the odds of this happening right at the time the Lord wants me to get this book out?" I also thought that this would be a good witnessing tool, so I sent her the book! The point is that there is a whole generation of saints and sinners to whom Jesus is appearing. This generation wants to meet the Lord personally, face-to-face, and He is doing that for them. I know that this is how the Lord apprehended me. There is a generation of young and old people who love His face, and they seek it. There are those who are opposed to this and cannot believe that Jesus can do such things, or that He is doing it among His people in this generation. As for this generation of saints, we think we know Jesus because we pray and read the Bible. But our problem is

that we tend to impose our own feelings onto the personality of Jesus. It's sort of like when a person becomes hurt or offended after reading an e-mail or a letter, because the words are flat, without expression, and without emotion. We tend to add what we are feeling at the time into what we are reading. But when correct punctuation is added to the letter, the sender's intended emotions and emphasis express their true feelings and message. When Jesus appears to us and we become acquainted with Him, we understand His real personality—only then can we know him. When we go back and read the Bible after meeting Jesus face-to-face, the words have different meaning—we feel the true meaning of the words, and we feel the real personality of Jesus.

There is a hunger in this generation that says, "Don't just tell me about Jesus or God. I want to meet Him personally!" That's what I have attempted to do in this book. You will meet Jesus face-to-face as a result, and He will come to you like He's doing to so many ten thousands of others. By His Spirit, I now write to this generation of those who love His appearances.

The purpose that the Lord gave me for writing this book as your brother in Christ was not to flaunt and pridefully boast of my supernatural experiences with the Lord. This is not my heart, and it's definitely not the Lord's heart or purpose at all. He told me that His purpose for this book was to be a witness of these things which I have seen and heard from Him on a face-to-face level to build faith in your life and to let you know that you too can have this face-to-face relationship with God's Son. It is our loving, Heavenly Father revealing His Son in an intimate way through these face-to-face experiences in this book.

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no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him (Matthew 11:27).

His purpose in this book is to bring you closer to the Son of God in relationship and intimacy by giving you a face-to-face experience with Him that you never dreamed or thought was possible! I say this humbly—I have experienced this and am a witness that you too can have this type of relationship with Jesus on this level. You can have this unprecedented relationship with your Lord and Savior, a relationship like you have never known that will leave you saying as Paul did in Romans, “*O the depths of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!*” (Rom. 11:33).

In this book, I have included my failures and successes in my relationship with the Lord for the purpose of showing His divinity and my humanity. I am human, and I’ve made many mistakes in my walk with Jesus. But He has lovingly remained faithful to me in this covenant relationship that we have, through adjusting my heart, mind, and life by dealing with me as a son and correcting me in love. This is what Paul meant when he said he would rather glory in his weaknesses than in his strengths or in himself:

Of such an 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 [by man] 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. . . . Most gladly

therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities (2 Corinthians 12:5-7,9).

Paul knew that by reporting these supernatural experiences that he had with the Lord, these out-of-body trips to Heaven, people would have a tendency to think of him more highly than he really was with God. We are not perfect here on Earth, and all that we will ever be is flesh or earthen vessels until the redemption of our body. We are human and are prone to make mistakes. These experiences can also cause the one who has them to look more perfect than he or she presently is! All of us, even on our best day, are flawed. This doesn't mean that we shouldn't strive to live up to God's best standards by the Holy Ghost. It's not because I have done everything perfect that these experiences with Jesus have been solely granted to me. I can say that I have loved Him to the best of my ability in spite of my faults and failures. All of us have made many mistakes, some greater than others, but nevertheless the Lord loves us and still gives us the opportunity to change and to move on to victory with Him. I have seen by experience that God gets more glory out of our weakest moments than out of our strongest moments (when we live out of our own self accomplishments). This allows His strength to be revealed, and His strength is made perfect or is completely manifested through us in our failures (see 2 Cor. 12:9).

As you learn about the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, He will begin to appear to you as He's done to many tens of thousands through this message as He promised in His Word. You will begin to meet Him face-to-face in an intimate way when He appears to you! This book has been written to arrange a

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face-to-face meeting and continual relationship of intimacy between you and God's Son, Jesus—and not only for now in this world, but for all eternity. I love Him, and I love you also, and I really want you to taste what I've experienced with Him as well. This is His heart, and so that makes it my heart and purpose as well. Be blessed as your life experiences the joys of this face-to-face relationship with the presence of Jesus through appearances. Experience what I call with Him, an *Intimacy Beyond Ecstasy*.

CHAPTER 1

The Appearance



CHAPTER 1

The Appearance



The First Face-to-Face Encounter With Jesus

Intimacy Beyond Ecstasy

It was during the Christmas season of December 1989. I fell fast asleep one night, about five to seven days before Christmas Eve. Suddenly, there He was with eyes glowing full of love. Standing in front of me was the man I'd heard about as a little boy my entire life. I had heard about this man from my father and mother, and was taught that He died on the cross for my sins and rose again on the third day from the dead. He still was not truly real to me, only a religious opinion. He was just someone my parents told me about because of their religious beliefs. Then, out of nowhere, He was standing there in front of me, face-to-face. As He stood in front of me, His very presence exuded and emanated

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such gentleness, a pureness and kindness beyond this world. It was ecstasy! For the first time, I was standing in front of Jesus. My whole being felt Him. You can imagine the ecstasy I felt. It was a feeling of intense glory! It is like wherever He stands He fills the very atmosphere, air, and molecules all around you. Even the atoms inside your very body and being respond to Him. It was total ecstasy—indescribable, blistering with ecstatic eruption! My whole being felt like it was caught up into Heaven. The very atoms in my body made me feel like I was about to explode! Currents of electricity went through me!

He Was All Glorious and Powerful

Standing in front of me was an awesome man—handsome and perfect in stature. He was just a little taller than me, about six feet or more—the perfect height of a normal man. As I gazed upon Him, I saw that the color of His hair was sandy-brownish and parted at the top, coming over the sides of His face, and down His shoulders in waves. The natural words of my vocabulary fail to describe how awesome He was then and how He is presently today! Jesus stood before me with eyes full of love and His face full of light and power. His eyes are so striking that when He looks at you, they penetrate through your very being, character, and nature. When He looks at you with those eyes, He knows everything about you, and nothing is hid from Him. His eyes are like an x-ray or a translucent ray of light. They penetrate and arrest you at the same time. Standing in front of me was Jesus, the King of kings, but He stood there unassuming, just as common as a normal man. I was seeing His humility and meekness, but I didn't understand it then.

It wasn't until years later that I understood what I was seeing in His character which He mentions in Matthew 11:29:

Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart.

His humility was so shocking to me. At this point, He was no longer a distant person who sat at the right hand of the throne beside God. He was real! He was alive! He was a man with a personality, and He was standing in front of me!

The One I now love was standing there wearing a beautiful, flowing white robe. There He was, the One I had heard about growing up. He was so powerful, but yet gentle; so merciful, yet full of judgment; so meek and lowly, yet so silently bold. I was captivated by His love. The atmosphere was filled with electricity, but with a peace and serenity beyond articulation. Who was I that the King of kings and the Lord of lords would come and appear to me like this after I had lived such a riotous, worldly, and sinful life? Years later, I wondered about the reason He came like this.

My friend, what and who I am talking about is not just some religious myth, opinion, or fairy tale. He is more real than the very breath of air you've just taken, the clothes you feel on your body, or the book you are holding in your hands reading this very second! I am talking about the most genuine person you will ever want to meet, and I saw Him for the very first time eighteen years ago. He was nothing like the Church has described or portrayed Him to be. Even now, men and women everywhere, and in the Church at large, have failed to describe Him to His fullest.

He Was Suddenly Talking to Me

In this dream, there stood Jesus as I have described. I was standing in front of Him as He was present with me, face-to-face. At the time, I was unaware that years later Exodus 33:11 would become the foundational Scripture that would fuel the passion of my pursuit for His friendship and intimacy.

Exodus 33:11 says,

And the Lord spake unto Moses face-to-face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.

When Jesus looked at me, I knew what He wanted without Him using or moving His mouth. Then He was suddenly talking with me, telling me to come to Him, to give Him my life, and to follow Him. That is all He said to me. His words were not long; they were short. Later I found out why His mouth didn't move. You see, in the Spirit, you don't need the natural faculties of your body to communicate. It is only here on earth that you need them. The Bible says in Romans 8:16, "*The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit.*" So, when God talks to us, He speaks to our spirit, and we hear Him clearly with our spirit, just as we hear with our natural ears.

He then began to speak saying, "*David, forsake your best friend, give your life to Me, and follow Me.*" At that time, my best friend in the world was not saved, nor was he ready to really give his life and heart to the Lord. So Jesus was telling me to forsake that relationship and follow Him. This is what happens with many young people and adults when they initially follow Christ. They are not willing to separate themselves from the

world's influence. You can't truly follow Jesus and maintain the worldly relationships or friendships you once had. You must be willing to even give up your best friend if Jesus requires you to!

I know someone is thinking or saying, "but the Bible *says*, 'No man hath seen God at any time,' and, 'no man can see Me, and live' just as God told Moses" (John 1:18; Exod. 33:20). That's true, but these Scriptures are not referring to Jesus, but to the Father. During the time of Moses, before Jesus shed His blood to put us back into right standing with the Father, no man could see God and live because of sin. Jesus can appear to us, and we can look on His face (see John 1:14). Who did Paul see on the road to Damascus when he was knocked off his horse? Jesus. Who did John the Beloved see on the Isle of Patmos face-to-face? It was Jesus. Jesus also appeared to 500 brethren at one time after His resurrection (see 1 Cor. 15:6). So, don't tell me that this experience wasn't real and that He doesn't appear to men today. He is the same as He was yesterday, today, and forever more. I know it was Jesus the Son of God who was standing in front of me face-to-face.

Forever Changed

After this first experience, little did I know that for the next eighteen years I was about to have incredible, yearly, consistent face-to-face encounters and visitations with Jesus, that would turn into an intimate and personal friendship with Him. These appearances that started as visitations and encounters with Jesus happened through dreams, visions, and in the bright open day while I was wide-awake. An encounter one night in 1989 changed the course of my life forever. Jesus instructed me to write this book, and I have

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compiled some of the trips to Heaven that I've taken, and the dramatic appearances that my friend Jesus, our risen Lord, has made to me. In agreement with the Word of God, I will share in descriptive detail what I've seen over the years as well as the intimate relationship and friendship that I have developed with Jesus. You can have this personal relationship as well! As you read, I pray that you will be thoroughly blessed as the reality of Jesus the Son of God is channeled through the pages of this book.

But let me also tell you what happened after the first vision I had. It was a few days before Christmas when Jesus first appeared to me in a dream. (I also had another supernatural encounter from God on Christmas Eve, just days after Jesus' first appearance.) It was the night that Santa Claus, for those who play the worldly ritual, was supposed to come. It was the season when schools let students out for Christmas and New Year's break. It was an exciting time for me, but little did I know that the whole course of my life was about to be changed dramatically.

I was seventeen and in the twelfth grade when this all happened to me and my life changed dramatically. Let me back up a little bit and tell you a small portion of who I was before the Lord first appeared to me and saved me.

I was your typical unsaved teenager, smoking dope, marijuana, using bad language and cursing, partying, and having premarital sex. I was even involved with gangs and hung around cocaine-dealing drug lords. I remember one time, before the Lord came to me and saved my life, I was caught in the crossfire of a shoot-out. There were bullets flying everywhere, and I could have possibly been shot and killed. Thank God—He spared my life and protected me! At

this time, the Lord sent a young man into my life named Randle Jackson to witness to me. He is one of my best friends today, but I will tell you more about this relationship later.

The Beginning ***The Heavens Fill My Room***

It all began August 1972, in the small town of Memphis, Tennessee. James H. Taylor and Katie M. Taylor were at the hospital about to give birth to their seventh child. My mother told me she would spend time praying for hours at the church altar when she was pregnant with me in her stomach. Little did they know that the Lord would apprehend that little boy when he turned seventeen, call him to preach the Gospel, and to do Miracle Crusades all over the world!

My mom and dad have nine children. Their firstborn was a boy they named Kenneth. He was followed by Sharon, then Antonio, Angela, Richard (whom I love dearly), Marilyn (my closest sister in age and heart), myself, Zondra, and Christopher (my baby brother). My mother and father were Christians. My father is a minister of the Gospel. God uses him so powerfully as a prophet, and he moves in great power. I've seen newspaper clippings of how God used him to stop a man who held up a bus with a gun. My father walked up to him and said, "I command you to give me the gun in Jesus' name," and the man put the gun in my father's hand! The police couldn't control the situation, but God's power through my father did. They hauled the man off to jail, but my father went with him and led him to Christ. The newspapers and media in Memphis caught this story. This awesome story inspired me; as a young man, I had never heard

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of God using anyone like this. For many years my parents took us to a beautiful Baptist church. I learned so much there.

We were taken to church every Sunday, and we even had Bible study at home. I always enjoyed it when my mom would sit us down and teach out of the Word of God. I was very inquisitive concerning the supernatural and the various Bible stories. But not even those experiences brought me into the dimension and the realm in God as my first personal encounter with Jesus did. I thank God for my mother and father who brought me up and taught me about the things of God.

I was the seventh child born in the family of nine brothers and sisters. They knew the life I used to live. There was a great transformation and change in my life through the encounter with Jesus that I had at seventeen. Jesus sent a young man named Randale Jackson to witness to me before I had the first visitation from the Lord. Randale and I were members of the same church, Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where C.J. Patterson, whom I love dearly, was pastor. While Randale was away from home at college, he was introduced to Maranatha Ministries in Nashville, Tennessee. Maranatha Ministries was a Spirit-filled ministry unlike the Baptist church that I had been attending. I realize today that God is baptizing a lot of the Baptists with the gift of the Holy Spirit. When Randale was in college, God baptized him with the Holy Spirit. He came back to Memphis witnessing to young people, and God specifically had him key in on me, witnessing to me week after week. He would pick me up, spend time with me, and tell me about Jesus. He was the only young man I saw at the church that was on fire for God. After my conversion, I

noticed that there was something different about him. This young man had the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and, like so many others, he was not ashamed of what he had received from God.

Before Jesus first appeared to me, I remember trying to give my life to the Lord because of Randale's witness to me. I remember telling him, "Listen, I have tried to do this, but I keep backsliding and making mistakes over and over again." Then I said, "I did my part, but God did not do His." Oh, how very wrong I was in my thinking! I said, *"I did my part; God did not do His. I am just going to go to hell."* Then he turned to me and said, *"If you want to live right, you need the Holy Spirit."* At that time, I was a Baptist, and I did not know who the Holy Spirit was. The only thing I knew about the Holy Ghost was that the pastor would baptize someone and say, *"I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost."* That was it! Two years later I would be introduced not just to the baptism of the Holy Spirit but to the person of the Holy Spirit (by a great man of God named Benny Hinn), which I will also tell you about later in this book.

The Supernatural Heavens Invade My Room

It was about 11:00 P.M., and I was at home on a wintry Christmas Eve night in 1989. My light was the only one on in the house. I got down on my knees, looked up to Heaven, and said, *"Lord, You came to me in a dream, and You showed me that you are real."* Then I paused, thinking—*was it just a dream, or was He really real? Was He really alive as I saw Him days earlier?"* Then I continued and said, *"If You are truly real, manifest Yourself to me more."* I did not know what I was asking for! I was just repeating what Randale had told me a few

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days earlier. I continued, *“And give me the Holy Spirit that I may live right.”* After I said those words, I suddenly heard the voice of God audibly in my room the same way you would hear an announcer over the radio or someone standing in front of you talking. I heard His voice clearly, and it shook the room. God Almighty was speaking to me. He said, *“Speak in tongues!”* Now, you have to understand that I knew nothing about the Holy Spirit, tongues, or the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The only thing I knew was that the Holy Spirit was the third person in the Trinity.

I did not know what speaking in tongues was, nor did I understand what He was asking of me. I was only baptized in water and hadn't been taught about this yet. I knew that everyone else in the house was asleep. He spoke audibly again and said, *“Speak in tongues.”* After He said it the second time, I parted my mouth to ask Him what tongues were and what He was asking me to do. As I parted my lips, a language came out of me that I had never heard. I began to talk to Him in a language that I did not understand. A few seconds went by before it stopped, and I didn't know what happened. Intense glory filled my room, and I thought I was going crazy. You have to understand that I grew up in the Baptist church and did not know anything about the Holy Ghost; I had never heard a message on tongues or the in-filling of the Holy Spirit.

Baptized With the Holy Spirit

This marked the beginning of a revolution in my life. Every moment of my life was given to relationship and intimacy with Jesus, the One I had seen five days prior in the dream. I was praying, reading the Word, and seeking God intensely. I knew that after I had seen Jesus, He was truly alive, and that also meant

everything else in the Bible was true. I said to myself, “Since Jesus has risen from the dead, and I have seen Him, then everything else is true.” I wanted all of it! I went after Him. The more I sought Him, the more He would come and appear to me at various times and intervals. All I knew is that He was coming to me personally and on a consistent basis.

Without exaggeration, my room was engulfed with the atmosphere of Heaven and a cloudy mist. My room was literally lifted to the atmosphere of Heaven. My room did not actually have a door, so I had to put a bed sheet at the entryway. Often, before I put the bed sheet up every single day, a glistening angel with a sword would be standing at the door of my room. It was like I was not even at home. My mom was worried about me because I stayed in my room for hours and days at a time. I would come out and fellowship with the family at times, but I was caught up experiencing heavenly things in my room. My room was literally filled with celestial air or an electrical atmosphere.

I remember one time I was so hungry for God that I intensely read the Word all day and did not come out of my room. As I was reading, I was caught up in the glorious presence of God again and began fellowshiping and opening my heart to Him. I would tell Him how much I loved Him and wanted to know Him. I continued reading the Word until I was very sleepy and dozing off. I shook myself to wake up because I wanted to keep reading. I heard His voice say, “*Go to sleep now.*” Then, Psalm 127:2 came to me, “*He giveth His beloved sleep.*” I replied, “*Lord, just a few more minutes,*” and I stayed up reading a little bit more. My Bible was open in my hands when I heard the Lord say again: “*Go to sleep*

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now.” I still did not go to sleep because I wanted a little bit more time. As I sat with my eyes fully opened and the Bible in my hands, it suddenly shut by itself. It closed as if I had taken my hands and closed it, but one of my hands was still flat. God shut the Bible and said, “*I said, go to sleep now.*” The Bible records this type of experience in Scripture: “...and much study is a weariness of the flesh” (Eccles. 12:12). This supernatural experience of the Bible shutting in my hands, in front of my eyes, happened twice during the first year of my conversion.

I began to search the Scriptures day after day, and then I ran across the second chapter of Acts where they spoke in tongues. I jumped up and exclaimed, “*That’s what happened to me!*” Suddenly, I saw my life in the pages of the Bible. This is what I want you to understand. I didn’t know about speaking in tongues. So, when I read it in the Bible it was like a new revelation to me. Suddenly, Jesus and the baptism of the Holy Spirit came in my life by revelation. It was ecstasy!

The Communion and Fellowship of the Holy Spirit

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen (2 Corinthians 13:14).

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit... (Philippians 2:1).

As I’ve stated earlier, I was filled and baptized with the Holy Spirit at my conversion, but I knew nothing about the Holy Spirit as a person. The Lord began teaching me about the wonderful person of the Holy Ghost through the ministry of Benny

YOU can *experience* Jesus face-to-face!

Many amazing face-to-face visitations from Jesus Himself are intimately detailed by author David E. Taylor in this beautifully woven true - and continuing - love story about his conversion and life journey with Jesus.

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You will learn how to:

- Deepen your intimacy with Christ.
- Meet Christ face-to-face in person.
- Experience multiple appearances from Him on a lifetime basis.
- Become more prosperous in every way!
- Fulfill your calling and destiny.

Today you can go beyond “feeling His presence” to “seeing Him face to face.”



David E. Taylor serves in all of the five-fold ministry offices as an apostle. He most prizes his face-to-face appearance relationship and friendship with Jesus. These encounters have been documented and reported by many pastors and leaders and in testimonials of God's people for more than 18 years. He and his family live in Florissant, Missouri.

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