

Vertical Pt 1

Going Vertical

3 Promises of His Presence

1. Omni-presence: God is everywhere (Psalm 139:7)
2. Inner-presence: Holy Spirit lives in you (1 Cor 6)
3. Manifest-presence: Ministry of Jesus in reproduced in every believer.

Isaiah 64:1 (NKJV)

Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence.

- Example: Remember the first time you saw the mountains? They're incredible, every time. Have you ever seen the mountain move? Why? Mountains don't move.
- Isaiah uses mountains to represent all that is impossible to man. (Jesus did too. "Have faith in God. Say to this mountain..." Mark 11:23)
- "Mountains" is a euphemism for the things in our lives that we think can't change. (It will always be there." "It'll always be like this." "That won't ever be different." I can't see anyway that..."
- The CHURCH (God's people) is supposed to be the place where the mountains move!
- "Oh" is an exclamation of desperation....not whining, pleading and begging. It's an unshakable sense that without His manifest presence I'm lost.

Without God's manifest presence, we are completely, utterly, entirely lost.

"Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people. He waits to be wanted. Too bad that with many of us He waits so long, so very long, in vain."

— **A.W. Tozer**

Living Vertical:

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (TPT)

¹⁶But the moment one turns to the Lord with an open heart, the veil is lifted and they see.

¹⁷Now, the "Lord" I'm referring to is the Holy Spirit, and wherever he is Lord, there is freedom.¹⁸ We can all draw close to him with the veil removed from our faces. And with no veil we all become like mirrors who brightly reflect the glory of the Lord Jesus. We are being transfigured into his very image as we move from one brighter level of glory to another. And this glorious transfiguration comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the manifest presence of God on the earth today.

- Fellowship has been restored because of Jesus so that relationship can be developed through the Holy Spirit.
- We have an advantage. We have the fullness of the Scripture and the Holy Spirit
- David shows us 3 ways to Live Vertical

TREASURE His Presence

Exodus 33:14-16 (Message)

¹⁴ God said, "My presence will go with you. I'll see the journey to the end." ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Moses said, "If your presence doesn't take the lead here, call this trip off right now. How else will it be known that you're with me in this, with me and your people? Are you traveling with us or not? How else will we know that we're special, I and your people, among all other people on this planet Earth?"

- "David's life mission was to bring God's presence back to Israel and to build a place for God to dwell. God's presence was His priority.
- The Philistines returned the ark because it caused them problems (2 Chr 1:1-4) and instead of it going back to the Tabernacle of Moses, David brought it home.
- Most of his 75 Psalms were written from this place.

2 Samuel 6:17 (NASV)

¹⁷ So they brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord.

GUARD His Presence

- David assigned 288 singers, 24 worship teams, 12 members each to pray and worship 24-7 at the Ark. It grew to 4000 (1 Chron 23:5)

Lifestyle worship guards the presence of God in our lives and keeps us vertical.

- How we treat the Holy Spirit matters. Paul points out two legs of defense for guarding this special relationship

1. Character

Ephesians 4:30 (NASB)

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Grieve (Greek): *lupe*- to be sad, to be made sorrowful, to be made sorry

- Comes from the Greek *Lupe*: a grief that only be experienced by two people that deeply love each other

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NLT)

²⁹ Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. ³⁰ And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

2. Power

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 (NASB)

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit, ²⁰ do not utterly reject prophecies,

Quench (Greek): sbennumi- to extinguish, to stop the flow of

- Grieving and Quenching have equal value of importance.
- We grieve Him with wrong activity (sin). We quench Him when we fail to cooperate with divine activity.
- It doesn't make sense to emphasize the strong leg of character but not power. I want my legs to be equal length and strength.
- The religious crowd will applaud the character leg, but it doesn't produce anything to bring about transformation in the culture. We need both character and power.

CARRY His Presence

- The Tabernacle of David was a symbol or foreshadow of the church.

Ephesians 1:23 (Message)

The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with His presence.

- In this story, they literally carried the presence of God to the nation.
- We're supposed to be bringing to people what they can't find anywhere else.
- At the Tabernacle of David, King David now had full, free access to God's Presence. Further, there was no veil separating people from Ark of the Covenant, as there was in Moses's tabernacle.
- After the temple is built, Amos prophesied that God would restore the Tabernacle of David (Amos 9) and that He would use Jews and Gentiles to do it. God's Presence would be restored amongst His people. In Acts 15, James tells them it's happening!!

Acts 15:16-18 (Amplified)

¹⁶ 'After these things I will return, And I will rebuild the tent of David which has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will restore it, ¹⁷ So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, And

*all the Gentiles upon whom My name has been invoked,'¹⁸ Says the Lord,
Who has been making these things known from long ago.*

Going Vertical: Treasure, Guard, Carry.