"Vision of Things to Come"

Dreams were very important in the Biblical recordings. The last few weeks we saw in Matt. 1:18-25 how Mary was found with Child and Joseph secretly planned to break the engagement. **Vv. 20-21 TPT** "While he was still debating with himself about what to do, he fell asleep and had a supernatural dream. An angel from the Lord appeared to him in clear light and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, don't hesitate to take Mary into your home as your wife, because the power of the Holy Spirit has conceived a Child in her womb. 21. She will give birth to a Son and you are to name him 'Savior,' for He is destined to give His life to save His people from their sins."

With Herod on the rampage to eliminate any rival to his throne, Joseph had another dream, a warning dream. Matt. 2:13-15 TPT "After they (wise men) had gone, Joseph had another dream. An angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Get up now and flee to Egypt. Take Mary and the little Child and stay there until I tell you to leave, for Herod intends to search for the Child to kill Him. 14. So that very night he got up and took Jesus and His mother and made their escape to Egypt 15. and remained there until Herod died. All of this fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through his prophet: 'I summon my Son out of Egypt.' Hos.11: 1. Only the Lord God Almighty has the power to fulfill all His prophecies!

And finally, Matt. 2:19-23 TPT further reveals how our Heavenly Father orchestrated the preservation of the life of His dearly loved Son: "After Herod died, the angel of the Lord appeared again to Joseph in a dream while he was still in Egypt, 20. Saying, "Go back to the land of Israel and take the Child and his mother with you, for those who sought to kill the Child are dead." 21. So he awoke and took Jesus and Mary and returned to the land of Israel. 22. But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded him as ruler over all the territory of Judah, he was afraid to go back. Then he had another dream from God, warn-

ing him to avoid that region and instructing him instead to go to the province of Galilee. 23. So he settled his family in the village of Nazareth fulfilling the prophecy that he would be known as **the Branch** (or "a Nazarene")."

TPT note: "The word for "branch" or sprout is netzer, the root word from which Nazareth, Nazarene, and Nazarite come. The teaching of the Branch of the Lord is a concept taught throughout the Bible, from the Tree of Life, to the seven branches of the Lampstand, to Jesus the Vine calling us His branches. Jesus is a Scion (or Descendent), a Branch that can be transplanted & grafted into a human life. Another variant form of this amazing word netzer can be translated "keeper, watchman, one who keeps secrets, guardian, one who keeps watch." All of these words are true of Jesus, the Branch who was raised in the village of the Branch (Nazareth)."

Just imagine, if you will, having the Branch "transplanted & grafted" into your life by faith in God's Word! Healthy trees grow, and He's the most powerful one of all. With God's Word as our sunlight and the Holy Spirit as our rain outside and sap inside, so to speak, the life of Jesus Christ within a believer will cause growth in strength and fruitfulness in life if tended properly.

Last night my wife & I both had dreams which I believe foretell things come. Dori, please come and share yours. ...I believe that we as a body are in the finishing stages of preparation for a mighty visitation of the Lord. Holy Spirit is here, orchestrating our steps for the fresh outpouring of His Spirit. **Rev. 18** speaks of the great city Babylon falling. **SFLB** note says there, "Babylon in the NT is a symbol of sinful humanity and its capacity for self-delusion, ambition, sinful pride, and demonized depravity. Babylon stands in contrast to the church as a society that persecutes God's people and thus inevitably will be destroyed." **Rev. 18:4-5 TPT** reads, "Then I heard another voice from heaven saying: "My people, come out from her so that you don't participate in her sins and have no share with her in her plagues, 5.

Because her sins are heaped as high as heaven (or "her sins have touched the heaven") and God has remembered her vileness (or "iniquities")."

Isa. 48:20-21 TPT says, "Go! Leave Babylon! Flee from Chaldea! Announce it with joyous singing (or "shouting"; "The key to fleeing from the Babylonish systems (Babylon means "confusion") of the world is to go out with a joyous song."). Let everyone know! Proclaim it to the ends of the earth! Say it loud and clear: "Yahweh has rescued His servant Jacob!" 21. The people weren't thirsty when He led them through barren, desolate deserts, for He broke open the rock for water to flow for them. The rock was split open, and rivers gushed out!" So do not worry what the future holds in Christ Jesus! God knows what our needs will be and has the "water" of Holy Spirit ready for whatever we might face!

John 7:37-39 TPT "Then on the most important day of the feast, the last day, Jesus stood and shouted out to the crowds — "All you thirsty ones, come to Me! Come to Me and drink! 38. Believe in Me so that rivers of living water will burst out from within you, flowing from your innermost being (or "rivers of living water will flow from His throne within."), just like the Scripture says!" 39. Jesus was prophesying about the Holy Spirit that believers were being prepared to receive. But the Holy Spirit had not yet been poured out upon them, because Jesus had not yet been unveiled in His full splendor." TPT note: "This splendor included the splendor of the cross, the splendor of His resurrection, and the glory of His ascension into heaven. Just as water poured out of the rock that was struck by Moses, so from the wounded side of Jesus living water poured out to heal, save, and bring life to everyone who believes. The Holy Spirit poured out of Christ and into the Church at Pentecost."

2 Cor. 6:16-18 TPT "What friendship does God's temple have with demons? For indeed we are the temple of the living God, just as God has said: "I will make My home int hem and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will by My people." 17 For this reason, "Come out

from among them and be separate," says the Lord. "Touch nothing that is unclean, and I will embrace you (or "I will welcome you (within).").

18. "I will be a true Father to you, and you will be My beloved sons and daughters," says the Lord Yahweh Almighty."

The Bride is making herself ready, if you will. Rev. 19:6-7 TPT "Then I heard what seemed to be the thunderous voice of a great multitude, like the sound of a massive waterfall and mighty peals of thunder, crying out: "Hallelujah! For the Lor dour God, the Almighty, reigns! 7. Let us rejoice and exalt Him and give Him glory, because the wedding celebration of the Lamb has come. And His bride has made herself ready." TPT notes: "The imagery of the wedding celebration of the Lamb reinforces and expresses the beautiful intimacy that Jesus shares with His beloved bride." "And His bride has made herself ready." In Aramaic, it reads, "And His bride loves Him!"

In my dream, I saw myself in a large building similar to a gymnasium. The place was full of people on both the floor and in the bleachers. I noticed a most unusual thing then. As I preached, I did not look at the people, but off to the side of them. I don't remember the content of what I said, however, I do believe that "the gym" and my preaching to the side meant two things: the location did not matter for it was not about the building that was being used. Secondly, it was not about the person doing the preaching and how their face looked, because it was all about the Persons Whom the message was about: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.