



LIVING FROM ABOVE

Session 11: On Earth As It Is In Heaven

Pastor Dale Campbell

I. NO SEPARATION

A. God's Original Plan

1. God's plan was never for Heaven and earth to exist in separation.
 - a. In the beginning, Heaven's rule, presence, and purpose were expressed on the earth.
 - b. Sin brought separation, but redemption restores what was lost.
2. God walked with man, man lived in fellowship with God, and earth reflected Heaven's order.
 - a. There wasn't an order for heaven and another for earth.
 - b. Heaven's way of thinking and doing were the same order on earth.
3. We must stop seeing Heaven and earth as two realities that are completely disconnected from one another.
 - a. Heaven and earth were never intended to operate independently of one another.
 - b. God's plan was always for the two to work together, with Heaven influencing earth.

II. THE INFLUENCE OF HEAVEN

A. Jacob's Dream

1. Genesis 28:10-12

NKJV "Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder *was* set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there **the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.**"

2. Why were the angels ascending and descending (going back and forth) from heaven to earth?
 - a. They were engaged in active communication and activity between heaven and earth.



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- b. Heaven is not sealed off from earth—there is continual movement between these two realms.
- 3. Jacob was given a glimpse of another realm—the heavenly realm—while he was still physically here on earth.
 - a. He was living in one realm but allowed to see into another.
 - b. His dream is a living witness to us of the existence of the realm of heaven and that there is continual and ongoing activity taking place between here and there (heaven and earth).
- 4. **Genesis 28:16**
NKJV “Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.’”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *Jacob had a new awareness that he would never forget regarding the reality of heaven and the ongoing activity that takes place betwixt heaven and earth.*

B. An Open Heaven

- 1. Heaven is not isolated from earth. Heaven is still very much effecting earth.
- 2. The angel’s activity reminds us we are not left alone to whatever happens on earth. Heaven / God is still able to work in our world around us.
- 3. Take away:
 - a. God allowed Jacob to see His will regarding heaven and earth.
 - b. His will is ongoing influence from heaven to earth.
 - c. His will was never for heaven to be closed but OPEN unto us.

III. THE ROLE OF JESUS

A. Jesus Came to Do MORE

- 1. Many believers have limited the role of Jesus to simply getting us to Heaven someday.



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- a. But **Jesus came to do more than secure our future destination—He came to restore our relationship and alignment with Heaven**, so that Heaven could once again work in us and through us on the earth.
- b. Jesus didn't only make a way for us to go to Heaven; He restored Heaven's influence in our lives here and now.

2. John 1:51

NKJV "And He said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'"

- a. Jesus explicitly speaks of Jacob's experience in the dream: angels "ascending and descending".
- b. There is NO record of this literally occurring.
- c. There must be a spiritual revelation connected with this.

PASTOR'S NOTE: *In Jacob's dream, the angels ascended and descended upon a ladder. According to Jesus, they are ascending and descending upon Him—He becomes the ladder.*

In Jacob's dream the ladder was the connection between heaven and earth. NOW Jesus is the connection between heaven and earth. Through Christ, Heaven is more than the place we are going someday; it is the realm we are connected to and called to live from today.

Through Christ, we have been brought back into alignment with Heaven—living on earth while drawing our life, perspective, and influence from above.

B. Through Christ, Heaven is Open

- 1. Through Christ, Heaven is open.
- 2. Through Christ, we have access.
- 3. Through Christ, we have been brought into alignment with Heaven.
- 4. And through Christ, we can LIVE FROM ABOVE while here on earth.



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5. Hebrews 4:14-16

NKJV “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

- a. Come Boldly → Approach → Come Near → Draw Nigh
- b. Where is our High Priest Jesus?
 - **Vs. 14:** “...*He passed through the heavens...*”. He is in the heavenly realm.
- c. Where is He enthroned?
 - In heaven.
 - We are to approach and enter the place where He is enthroned to find grace to help in our time of need.
- d. Where is our place of need?
 - On earth.

PASTOR’S NOTE: *The successful Christian life is learning to live with access to heaven, ascending boldly to the throne of grace to receive what we need, and then bringing heaven’s grace, wisdom, strength, and provision into the situations we face on earth. We go to the throne to obtain; we return equipped to overcome.*

C. Jesus, Our Example

1. How did Jesus live as the “Son of Man” on earth, successful and victorious in every way?

a. **John 3:12-13**

NKJV “If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven.”



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- b. Jesus is physically standing on earth talking with Nicodemus, yet He says the Son of Man is “*in heaven*”.
 - Jesus was connected to TWO realms!
 - c. Many commentators will only speak of His ascending into heaven as something that occurred prior to His descending to earth (born as a babe and living as a human being).
 - d. Another thought:
 - While on earth, Jesus lived the “ascended life”.
 - He never lost sight of His HEAVENLY identity.
 - He lived a lifestyle of ascending and descending: PRAYER.
2. Jesus **always** operated by heaven’s system.
- a. **John 12:49 KJV** “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.”
 - b. **John 5:19 KJV** “Then answered Jesus and said unto them, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.’”
3. Jesus prayed **regularly**.
- a. Scriptures:
 - **Luke 5:16 KJV** “And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.”
 - **Mark 1:35 KJV** “And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”
 - **Luke 6:12 KJV** “And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.”
 - b. Jesus’s life was a **pattern of prayer**!
 - Through prayer, Jesus continually drew from the realm of Heaven and brought Heaven’s will into the earth.
 - He lived in constant fellowship with the Father, receiving what He needed to say, what He needed to do, and how He needed to respond.
 - **His ministry on earth flowed** from His relationship with the Father in Heaven.



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D. The Model Prayer for the Disciples

1. There is a difference in how they were taught to pray and how we pray.
 - a. They were praying for the Kingdom to come.
 - b. We pray as *citizens* of the Kingdom.
 - c. Our position is different.

2. Matthew 6:8-13

NKJV “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. **Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.** Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

- a. Note that the prayer is to bring the will of God *from* heaven *to* earth.
- b. Jesus was teaching His disciples that prayer is not merely about getting people from earth to heaven.
- c. Prayer is also about bringing the will, purpose, and influence of heaven into earthly circumstances.

E. The Real Purpose of Prayer

1. Prayer is the connection through which the will of heaven is invited, received, and expressed in the earth.
 - a. We are not praying for the Kingdom to come as though it has not yet arrived.
 - b. We have already been translated into the Kingdom of His dear Son.
 - c. We pray to receive heaven’s wisdom, insight, direction, and supply—what to say, what to do, and how to respond—so that the will and influence of Heaven may be manifested in every circumstance we face while living on the earth.
2. We should be ascending in prayer every day.



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- a. By doing so, we enter into communion with the Father to receive Heaven's wisdom, direction, strength, and supply, and then descending into the circumstances of life equipped with what we need to deal with the issues before us.
- b. We ascend to receive from Heaven; we descend to release Heaven into the earth.

IV. HEAVENLY MINDED

A. Balancing Spiritual and Earthly Responsibilities

1. The saying, "you're so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good", describes someone who is so focused on spiritual matters that they neglect practical responsibilities or the needs of people around them.
 - a. **Earthly mindedness** sees the problem, rehearses the circumstances, responds according to natural limitations, and asks, "What can I do?"
 - b. **Heavenly mindedness** looks above, receives heaven's wisdom and perspective, and asks, "What has God said, and what is heaven supplying for this situation?"
2. Biblically, true heavenly-mindedness should make us more effective on earth, not less.
 - a. We should never be so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good.
 - b. If we are truly heavenly minded, we ought to be of greater earthly good.
3. We don't become heavenly minded so we can **escape** earth. We become heavenly minded so we can **impact** earth.

B. Ascending in Prayer / Descending with Provision

1. We ascend in prayer to receive heaven's perspective, wisdom, grace, and provision, and we descend to bring heaven's influence into earthly situations.
2. Prayer is not an "escape".
 - a. Prayer is a gateway to an open heaven, allowing heaven to flow through and invade earth's issues.



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3. Examples:
 - a. The early Church prayed—and the place was shaken.
 - b. Paul and Silas
 - c. Elijah prayed, and the rain stopped for 7 years.
 - d. The Church prayed, and an angel opened the prison doors for Peter.
4. In prayer we ascend in fellowship and attention toward God; then we descend into our circumstances carrying what we have received from Him.

V. CLOSING

- When I am praying, I am receiving from Heaven.
- When I am listening, I am hearing the wisdom of Heaven.
- When I am speaking, I am declaring the Word of Heaven.
- When I am acting, I am carrying out the will of Heaven.
- I ascend in prayer to receive what Heaven supplies, and I descend into my circumstances equipped to release what Heaven has given me.
- I receive from Heaven so I can release Heaven on the earth!