

Visions and Revelations

Message 12: The Life of One Who Has Visions and Revelations

Oh, Lord, we're so thankful You've been with us in the last few months. You speak to us, You give us visions, give us understandings, use this to strengthen us and carry us on. Lord, this is the last fellowship. We want You to anoint us, we desire You can be so much with us. Give us a spirit of joyfulness and spirit of restfulness. We do have You, the giver of visions and revelations. Be with us this morning. We need You. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Well, dear brothers, we come to the last meeting. It's actually not a message. It's just very simple fellowship based on one question: if you do have visions, if you do have revelations, what kind of life you will have? To us, right, you see something, you receive something, you could be buoyant, prevailing, doing a lot of things, but do you realize, eventually, that's not with Peter. Peter still have his limitations, still have weaknesses, so the best way to look at Peter's life must come from the Lord Jesus' comments. When the Lord Jesus resurrected, when Peter took the 10 disciples to do fishing, and they can't get a thing, eventually the Lord appeared to them, and they caught a lot of fish. Then they were brought—the Lord—they come up, and there's a fire there's fish, and the Lord's there waiting for them. Then the Lord speak to Peter in the very interesting way. He said, "Peter, when you were young, you gird yourself and walk the way you like, do the things you like. When you are old, you stretch out your hand, and people—to Peter that means the Roman soldiers—will bind you and take you to the place you don't like to be. The apostle John mentioned, "this means how he will die to glorify God." You know brother, this very short statement, did you realize He did not mention, "Peter, you will be prevailing. Peter, you will have no sin. Peter, you will have no weakness. Peter, you will have no problems in your life. Peter, you will be able to trust Me." No. The Lord's word is very simple. "You saw something. What you see should become a girder, gird you, that cause you to have another kind of life. Lord told Peter, "You will gird yourself to do the things you will." In other words, you are girded. What does girded mean? Remember, the Lord told that story in Luke. He said, "The servant in the field, he's doing a lot of things for the lord, the master. Then he came home. Does he have the right to eat? No. He has to serve his master." Now He add a word. "He gird himself, serve the lord his master until his master eat and drunk." Not really get drunk, means get satisfied. "Then, it's his turn to eat and drink." You know, brother, it's very interesting. If you look at whole Christianity, do you realize so many workers are in the field, including us? We do a lot of things for the Lord, but not girded. How many Christian preachers are girded? How many good brothers, pure brothers, growing brothers, developing brothers, or manifested brothers are girded? Girded means what? "I know why I'm here. I know what I'm doing. I was in the field. I do a lot for the Lord, but now I gird myself. I realize—not doing a lot for the Lord; I must have the Lord Himself. I must bring satisfaction to my Lord Jesus Christ. Until He's satisfied, I cannot be satisfied." So gird means—what gird means: "My goal is clear. The purpose of my existence is clear. The reason of what I'm doing here is very clear. I am here with my Master. I spent the whole day in the field, but now there's a precious time I can be with my Lord. Did you realize? In this parable the Lord was very careful about when you are with the Lord you are girded. You can do many things, a lot of things, but not girded. Now Peter is much better compared with all the servants in the field. Peter is girded first, then go to the field according to what he thinks. Means what? His purpose is clear, his goal is clear, the reason of his life is clear, the meaning of his labor is very clear, because he knows this is the way to satisfy God. Second stage, when you are old you stretch

out your hand, the people will bind you, and take you to a place you don't like. You know, brother, this portrays whosoever had a vision, had a revelation, their life will be so special. I have a life way beyond "I'm overcoming, I do well, I'm prevailing, I commit no more sin, I don't have any world." No, it's not that. I gird myself means I have another kind of living. A living to serve the Lord. When I am serving the Lord, I may still have weaknesses, I may still have limitations, I may still see how incapable, how powerless I am, but to the Lord all these doesn't matter that much. What matters is he's able to gird himself. Means, have a kind of living according to the vision he has. So you can see the apostle Peter had a very romantic life. The goal of his life, very clear: "I'm going to serve the Lord according to what the Lord has shown me. I see vision, I see visions, I see revelations, praise the Lord. In my life, I'm very free. I'm a servant of the Lord. I go where I feel the Lord led me. I ministered however I feel the Lord want me to minister. I'm with people because I feel the Lord want me to be with these people. You know, brother, if you ask me, I would say this is the most romantic life a man could have. I see something, I see the meaning of life, the substance of life, I see the reality of life, I see why the Christian was born and saved and receive visions and revelations. Marvelous! Therefore I am a servant of the Lord." What stage is this? Lord says, "When you are young." When you are young means what? Means 30? 40? 60? 80? We don't know, but anyways, with every Christian there should be a stage, "I see something, I want to exercise, I want to fulfill what the Lord has committed to me. I like to labor, I like to travel, I like to go to places, I like to exercise according to however I feel the Lord has told me. Did the Lord say "Wrong"? No, Lord just said, "When you are young." You don't have this stage, you miss a lot. Some brothers, all their life, they say, "I stretch out my hands. Bind me." Brother, your life so boring. But anyways, Peter eventually get old. The Lord's prediction is when you become old, you will stretch out your hands. Means what? Willingly. Maybe willingly by force. "I know I have no choice." Maybe willingly because I just feel that's what I have to do. I stretch out my hands and let others bind me. I'm bound to the place I don't want. You know, today there's no Roman empire. Today there's no cross for us to die on. Today it's very simple. When we become mature, we live a life under a kind of bondage. We willingly to live a life under that kind of bondage. Who binds us? The Lord binds us, the church binds us, the needs of the church bind us, brothers and sisters bind us, those who love the Lord bind us, those who don't love the Lord bind us. All of a sudden, not, "I have received something, I want to exercise." Rather, "Lord, I joyfully abide in Your government. I know You are the Lord. So if the church need me, I'm with the church. If the saints need me, I'm with the saints. If the pursuing ones need me, I'm with the pursuing ones. If those who do not love the Lord but need me, I'd like to spend time with those who do not love the Lord. People think they're hopeless? No, I feel that I can be with them." Brother, what kind of life is this? When you are young, you're so buoyant. "Go! Let's go! We want to preach gospel. We want to evangelize. We want to go to cities, countries. We want to do things, raise up Lord's testimony, raise up brothers who love the Lord, raise up brothers who want to serve the Lord full-time, hallelujah!" But eventually when we are old we begin to realize all kinds of needs is there. Not what I feel, but the need. How about the need of the church? I must live according to the need of the church. How about need of this or that? I must live according to the needs. This becomes a kind of bondage, in a nice way. Binding. I'm bound. Bound by what? By the church's need, by the saints' need, by the going on of the church need, by the testimony to be raised up need, by all kinds of needs. I can say, Lord I am your servant. I like to be peacefully, simply, just living according to You. This is the Lord's speaking to Peter. I eventually should portray, whosoever have visions and revelations, their life should be this kind of life. If I have visions and revelations, I should say Go! I should say Labor! I should say, I gird myself! To do whatever the Lord desires and what the Lord is after. How good is this? Praise the Lord. But eventually, you become older and you realize,

not what I'm burdened for, but what the need is. So much need in the church life, so much need among many churches, so much need with so many different brothers and sisters. Now, they become my binding force. I have to live for them. You know brother? If you ask me, I see a vision, I see a revelation, what kind of life shall I be? I say, check these two things: Are you young? Or are you quite mature? If you're young, rise up. Drive your car to the neighboring town and preach the gospel. Rise up, walk around your neighborhood and talk to your neighbors about the gospel. I do something, I gird myself for the testimony, to fulfill what I have seen. According to what? According to what? I like, I feel that the Lord has led me to do this or that. Until one day, by the Lord's mercy, you grow. You grow unto maturity. Your concern is more overall now. Your concern is, what is the best for the Lord? Rather than what I am burdened for. At this time, how precious this brother can become. Do you realize? The church and the church life among the churches, we all need this kind of mature Peter. We also need young Peter. If a church life has a lot of young Peter, always go out, always gird themselves, preach gospel, visiting the saints, raise up new testimonies, go cry for a couple hours, to a new town and try to raise up a new testimony. How good that is? And even in the church life there is some mature ones. Their consecration is much more than just what I do. Rather, what the Lord desires. How do I walk with the Lord? Work with the Lord? So that the Lord can fulfill what He desires. That means, your hand stretched out, you are bound to do what the Lord allows to happen to us. And we are joyfully abiding in the Lord's government. At this time, I tell you, a man has a vision, can joyfully say, "Lord I am so thankful. When I was young, I was a fighter! When I am old, I was abiding in you in such a peacefulness and restfulness, yet so girded, so alert, so diligent, to make sure that everything satisfies Christ." If you ask me, how do I know a brother have a vision? What kind of life do they have? Number one, please get away from the low things. I don't commit sin anymore, I don't lose temper anymore. The Lord seems to ignore these kind of things, rather he asks you, "How about the active side? How about the positive side?" Brother don't look down at your weakness, look down at how positive you are, how active you are, how much you're girded, and how much you can say I serve the Lord. According, I feel burdened from the Lord. This is number one. Number two, when the Lord unveils to Peter, "You are Peter, upon this rock, I will build my church. I will give you the keys of the door or gates of heavens. With this, you can do so much if you open it, nobody can shut it, if you shut it, nobody can open it." Brother, with such a high vision, I believe at that time, Peter was so buoyant, joyful. I don't know if he looked at John and say I got you right? Or look at James, I'm better than you right? Then finally, you know that I'm the biggest apostle right? Biggest brother right? I don't know what happened, but psychologically, he could be quite high, and feel very marvelous. Just at the same time, the Lord says, you have to know, we're going to Jerusalem, and after we are in Jerusalem, I will be put to shame. I will be challenged. Eventually, I will die on the cross, and the third day, I will be resurrected. You know brother, it's very interesting. Peter is just like us. We listen to messages, we only listen to the part that we like to listen. You know? He never heard the last part. "I will be resurrected." He only heard, Oh the lord is going to suffer, Lord will be persecuted, Lord will be challenged, eventually the Lord will be beaten, eventually the Lord will be nailed to a cross. Oh how could that be? So he grabbed the Lord and "Lord no no no, this would never happen to you!" You know what the Lord answer? "Satan get you behind me." The one was just told, "you are the rock," now you become Satan. Why? The Lord answer, "Satan get you behind me." Why? You care for the things of man, and not things of God. Let me tell you, if you want to keep your soul life, you will lose it. If you desire to lose your soul life, you will gain a soul life. You know what does this mean? Lord is telling Peter, you see a vision, the way to keep you, to be in the vision, you must know how to handle your soul life. It's hard to understand right? You lose your soul life, you gain your soul life. So what do you want us to do? Brother,

do you realize what the difference is? 60 years some years ago, I love the Lord with my soul so much. 60 some years later, I still love the Lord with my soul so much. What's the difference? It's a different soul. I lost a natural soul, I lost a rotten soul, I lost a mixed soul, I lost the soul that seeming after God, but after myself. Seeming after myself, but always after something else. You know brother? Eventually, the Lord says, you know I'm transforming you. What is transforming? The transforming of you, is the changing of your soul. Your understanding is different. Your appreciation is different. What you lay hold of is different. The goal of your life is different. Your soul decides you, decides your existence, decides your future. When I was young, I had a soul. I want to serve the Lord! Very mixed. I like to be a great preacher! I like to be a great servant of the Lord. No. You know brother? Now you have a soul. So pure, the Lord says "you have lost your soul because you deny your soul. You deny your soul life, I will grant you a soul life that's very pure." Why you serve the Lord? Because I love the Lord. Why are you living such a life? Because I have this precious Christ. My soul become crystal. Formally was a muddy soul. Opaque soul. A soul that's not clear, yet for Christ. Now you have a soul so pure, just for the Lord alone. Hallelujah. So we say two things already. Number one, if you see a vision, what is going to happen? Number one, you see a vision. So, you realize your life, when you are young, serving in Him! Desperate. Serving in Him with all your life, all your strength. Doing everything to satisfy Christ. But according to what you feel is right. When you are old, you'll find all kind of need, the Lord allow to happen. So you have to stretch your hand, let the church need bind you. Let the saint's need bind you. Let a specific need bind you. So you are under a kind of bondage, yet it is so healthy, because that makes you a protector, life giver, a stability, a source, a strength, for the church life. For the saints. For all what may happen when God operates. You understand this right? Number two, in this process, it's a process of forsaking your soul. Even deny your soul. Whatever you like, no. If it's not according to Christ. Whatever you appreciate, no. If it's not according to Christ. Even the best desire for Christ, like Peter hold Jesus, "No this will never happen to you!" No, the Lord says, "this is Satan, get you behind me." You must deny your soul life to get a better soul life. Transform your soul life. Purify your soul life. Crystallize soul life. A life that's so clear before God, before the Lord. Now the third thing, you know, the third thing is that the Lord brought the three disciples to the mountain. And he transfigured before them. And I think they were praying, when they were praying, the Lord Jesus transfigured before them. His garment, white as light. His face, shining. Shining, as the sun. You know what does this mean? This means, our Savior Jesus Christ, humanity side, there's nothing you can challenge Him. But most crucial is the divine side. The one who put on garment is more precious than the garment. Now, in Him, He would say, "Look at Me, who am I? I am just God." That must be a glorious realm or picture of glory. Lord was there. In this marvelous glory, two men appeared. One is Moses, one is Elijah. One is the law. One is the prophets. Look like the Lord would say, "My glory has to be upheld by law. My glory has to be upheld by the prophets." Doesn't mean you do things—that's the law. Means law become your reality. We have the law outward, but more, we have the law inside, that within us we know what is the best to please the Lord. When we say, "Lord, I want to know You! I want to be one with You! I want to have my living, my walking, totally in Your satisfaction!" Brother, at this time, there is a real Moses in glory. Not in command, in glory! Then, when I say, "I want to see the word. I want to minister the word, I want to speak for the Lord, I want to be an oracle for the Lord's testimony," brother, now you have a prophet, a prophet fully in glory. You remember this, law by itself—no glory. Prophets by itself—no glory. They must join the glory of Christ. Then the glory come out. In other words, if the law was kept because of law, no glory. If the law was kept because of life, the law of life, and lived out of us, there's glory. If a prophet speaks a lot, someone even say, "Oh, Covid-19, oh, this is what..." Brother, there is no such prophet.

When prophet in glory of Christ, means all what he minister, all what he say, all what he speak as an oracle to help God's people, must be in the glory of Christ, must lead us to Christ, must bring us to Christ, must bring us into the oneness with Christ. If a prophet do not lead us to Christ, rather only to the truth, only to some need of a present time, no. There is no glory there.

Eventually, you see a marvelous picture. There is a big glory from Christ. His garment is so crystal, and His face shine out just as the sun, means God Himself manifests through Him. If you take it as a half-circle, you can see in such a field, on this side there is Moses. On the other side, is Elijah. Let me say again, Moses has no glory, Elijah has no glory. They abide in the glory of Christ. Why? Because they lead us to Christ.

You know, brother, Peter here have to be tested. Peter's thought, "I see three men in the glory. I see Jesus, I see Moses, I see Elijah." He didn't realize there is only one glory, the glory come from Jesus Christ, the son of God, to cover Moses, to cover Elijah. They join in to that glory. So he begin to say, "Well, I want to follow the Lord. Praise the Lord, this is so marvelous. I will get three tents, one for You, Jesus, You will always be the first. But one for Moses, one for Elijah." Brother, do you realize what is this? When you follow the Lord, your life will be like Peter, young and old. When you follow the Lord, you will have to go through the process deny your soul life and follow Him, so your soul can be transformed. And more than that, you have to be brought out of religion. What is religion? "Isn't that marvelous? Christ is glorious! But here's Moses, if I can do this I'll be okay. And here is Elijah, if I can preach like this, I'll be okay." The Lord come up, "This is My beloved Son. In Him I am delighted." You know, brother, many things we say, "Lord, may we please You." God would answer, "I am happy you do this. But you know, I delighted in only one person. That is Jesus Christ. The One who make Me happy is only Jesus Christ. You must gain Christ." But here, in religion, we say, "We want to see Moses. We want to see Elijah. How much I dream I can be Elijah." I tell you, when I was young, I love these stories. The only thing I regret is Elijah was raptured, I know I cannot be raptured. But I just hope one day I can give message and so many people can be saved, and so many churches can be revived. Brother, because of this I look at some brothers who are spiritual, I think, "This is Moses. This is Elijah. Follow this man! Worship God because of them!" Should we worship God because of Moses? Yes. Because of Elijah? Yes. "God, thank You for giving us Elijah, give us Moses." But remember, their glory, they don't have any glory. Their glory was manifested by joining in Christ. When they join in Christ, they were in the glory of Jesus Christ. How often we are in religion. Because we are in religion, we like to see spiritual men. Oh, he walk with Christ. You are with him, you can smell Christ. You see him, you can sense the Lord's presence. Brother, don't you feel it's kind of interesting? Even this lead us away from Christ—I like to follow this spiritual man.

I tell you one thing I'm always thankful, a kind of peculiar thankfulness, I say, "Lord, thank You, I was not with Watchman Nee. If I was with Watchman Nee, I possibly may say, "This is Moses, this is Elijah, let's make three tents." But I'm very thankful I was very much helped by a brother. I still remember one day he told me that, "Brother Titus, even I told you to do something, if Lord didn't, don't do it. You must follow Christ." He always try, like Moses, like Elijah, bring us to Christ. Brother, a religion, a man in religion, they love the Lord. Meanwhile, they want to see some Moses. They want to meet a few Elijahs. So they can say, "Praise the Lord, I'm with that spiritual man. I can give you a testimony how many years ago, when brother so-and-so was with me how I feel the Lord's presence." Brother, right or wrong? Nothing wrong, but be careful. If you are not careful, you will be like Peter: "Let's have three tents. One for You, one for Moses, one for Elijah."

You know, brother, you have visions, you have revelations, they all should bring you only to Christ. You should appreciate a man of God, a God-man, Moses. You should appreciate a powerful prophet like Elijah. But you always know, "I believe in Jesus. If a brother help me, praise the Lord. If a brother opened

some spiritual things to help for my going on, praise the Lord. But you know what is most precious? Most precious is I don't worship Moses. I don't worship Elijah. I worship God, Christ alone." When you say, "Moses and Christ!" God will intervene. God will say, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. Listen you Him. Just Him. Listen Him. Listen to what the Lord have to say to you.

You know, brother, when you see a vision, the three things will be your life. Firstly, I really appreciate, can we all say, "I am girded! I want to go out! I want to preach gospel! I don't care is this so spiritual, but I'm burdened, really burdened. Brother, this is a blessing. Until I become mature. Then I am under a kind of limitation, from the church, from the saints, from the environment ,but when I am young, I like to go out and testify Christ! Pioneer for the Lord's testimony! Secondly, I want to deny my soul life. So that my soul life, I can gain a soul life that is clear, that is crystal, that is pure, that is only concerned with Christ Himself, that is to bring the profit to Christ. Thirdly, I don't want to be in religion. When I follow the Lord, I appreciate Moses. I appreciate Elijah. I appreciate man of God, I appreciate the servants who speak God's word, open us, help us, raise us up, but even that, I know: who do I follow? Christ! Who's my Lord? Christ! Who's the center of my living? Christ! You have a vision? You need to have a life: nothing but Christ. May the Lord be merciful to us.

We conclude these about twenty messages. I hope this can be a profit to us all. How about our going on? Brother, in every message there is some nuggets. Try to pick out the nuggets. Abide in it, pray according to it, and give yourself to exercise through this help. May Lord have mercy. We will have one or two months break. If the virus is over, praise the Lord, then the churches can go back to a normal church life. If the virus is still very strong, limit our coming together, I hope we can continue with the visions and revelations of the apostle Paul and of the apostle John. May Lord have mercy to us, I am very thankful for you standing there, even though I don't see you, for your being with us in our labor. Lord bless you, and Lord be with you. I stop here.