

**“...and He
was
transfigured
before
them”**

Mark 9:2

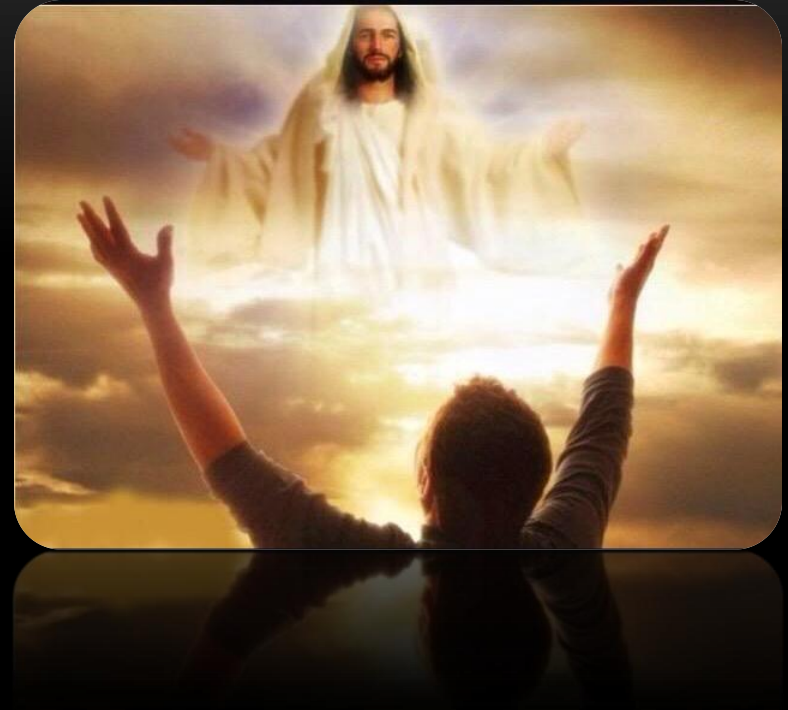


Things to
remember
about...
“Seeing God”



Highlights

1. Different levels of experience
2. Hindrances to seeing God



Different levels of experience ⁽¹⁾

- God can't be seen at any time:
“But He said, ‘You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.’”

Exodus 33:20



Different levels of experience ⁽²⁾

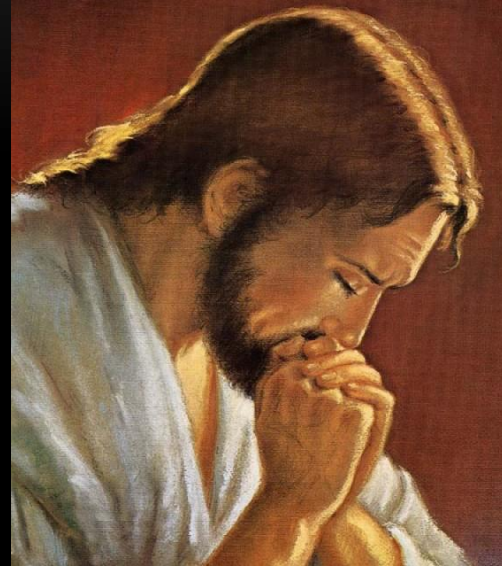
- God chose to show Himself in different forms to others in the Old Testament:
The visitor to Abraham, the angel to Jacob, the burning flame in the bush to Moses, etc.



Different levels of experience ⁽³⁾

- The Son of God declared God to us when He came to us in the form of a servant:

“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*” *John 1:18*



Different levels of experience (4)

- Seeing His glory:
 - This is the glory of His body which is a glimpse of the glory of His divinity
 - On the mountain of transfiguration to three of the disciples



Different levels of experience ⁽⁵⁾

- Seeing His glory: cont.
 - The Lord Christ later appeared to the disciples after the Resurrection, to St. Paul on the way to Damascus and to others according to His wise discretion



Different levels of experience ⁽⁶⁾

- Seeing His glory: cont.
 - This is an exceptional level and we ought not to request it.
 - God wants us to know Him through faith and personal experience not with our eyes.



Different levels of experience ⁽⁷⁾

- Seeing His glory: cont.
 - His appearance also brings judgment and we cannot be sure if we are ready to endure this immediately.



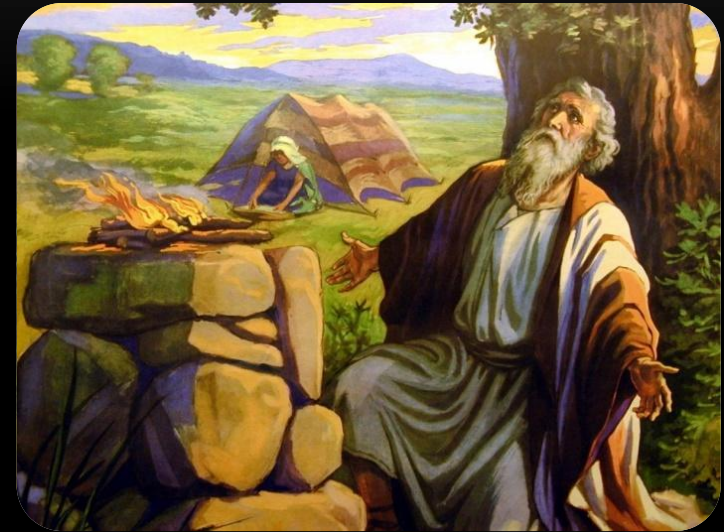
Different levels of experience ⁽⁸⁾

- Seeing His glory: cont.
 - “And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the Lord appeared to all the congregation” *Num 16:19*



Different levels of experience ⁽⁹⁾

- Understanding His will:
 - This is Job's experience when he came to understand God's wisdom and his limitation:
“I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You” *Job 42:5*



Different levels of experience ⁽¹¹⁾

- Understanding His will: cont.
 - It is the experience of the one who suffers when coming to the point of submission and finding comfort in God's care and wisdom.



Different levels of experience ⁽¹²⁾

- Recognizing His presence:

- **Through His work:**

“For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead”

Romans 1:20



Different levels of experience ⁽¹³⁾

- Recognizing His presence: cont.

- **Through touching our hearts:**

“Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?” *Luke 24:32*



Different levels of experience ⁽¹⁴⁾

- Recognizing His presence: Cont.
 - Through the peace He brings to those who are pure in heart:

“Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see God”

Matthew 5:8

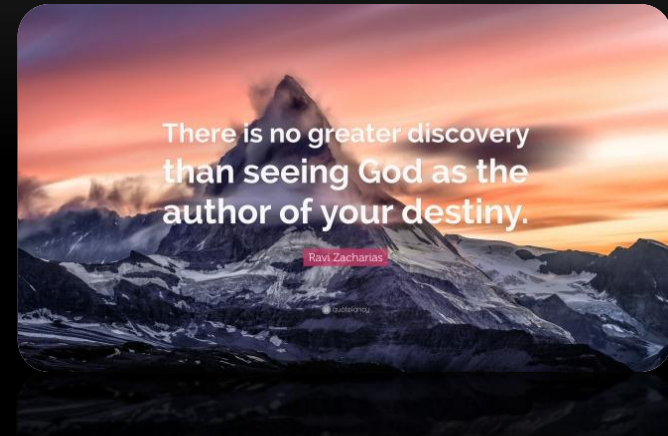


Different levels of experience (15)

- Recognizing His presence: cont.
 - **Through the fulfillment and sense of purpose in those who live for Him:**

“Then Peter said, ‘See, we have left all and followed You.’”

Luke 18:28



Hindrances to seeing God ⁽¹⁾

1. Not willing to see Him
“...their own malice blinded them” *Wisdom 2:21*
2. The acceptance of dual life
between godliness and sin



Hindrances to seeing God ⁽²⁾

- 3. Confusing emotions with spirituality
- 4. Avoiding the fellowship with the Lord Christ and the cost of following Him



Hindrances to seeing God (3)

5. Distractions:

C.S. Lewis in *Screwtape*

Letters writing about Satan's advice to one of the devils who was following a certain person:



Hindrances to seeing God ⁽⁴⁾

5. Distractions:

“Keep him aware of little things”, he said.

“Keep him aware of the fact that this usher is a hypocrite, that this man’s shoes squeak, that this lady’s hat does not fit properly. Keep him so aware of little things that he will never see Christ”