

Life as a Spirit Being, Part 2 of 2

Life after we are changed to spirit

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ID 24

Summary:

**

Hello once again, everyone. This message, I hope and pray, will give you a new dimension into our future. I hope young people will hear it especially, but really this is for everyone. We all dream once in a while.... or have you stopped dreaming? What's *your* dream? What was your *childhood* dream?

Our dreams *change* as we age and mature, but I remember certainly as a child, some of my dreams came from watching nature: *I wished I could soar* like the hawk overhead. Or be able to flash across the sky like lightning, faster than a thunderbolt. In my daydreams, I was the invisible man, and what would I do with that power? As a child I had imaginary superheroes, as do many children today do. Superman, Flash, Tarzan, The Phantom, Green Lantern and other comic heroes all rolled into one. Growing up in the Philippines, I often fantasized I was Tarzan. .. all 9 years old of me, stripped to my underwear and wearing a belt and knife I'd run up the cliff behind our home and for all the world-- I was Tarzan. What was your dream? What's happened to those dreams?

As we get older, reality sets in. Worse yet, illness and aches and pain set in. Responsibilities load us down. We *can't* be super powerful; we *can't* do as we please when we please. Add to that, Church and religion remind us of dos and don'ts. I could no longer run around the hills in my underwear once I hit puberty for some reason. And of course – I couldn't fly; let alone soar -- I couldn't even *run* all that fast, who was I kidding? I was no super hero. . . and I'm certainly not one now. No, I was more like Buzz Lightyear in Toy Story, who *thought* he could soar and save the universe – and one day realized he was, in fact, just a toy.

But guess what? I want you to dream a little today again – as we complete part 2 of the sermon “The Thrilling Life of a Spirit Being”.

WHY am I covering this topic?

- Partly because it isn't covered frequently, but there are ample scriptures that talk about it
- ***I'm also doing this because we need something fun, something exciting*** to look forward to, or we may not be able to endure this life, especially the things we know are coming. Even our Savior Jesus was able to endure the shame of the cross “for the JOY that was set before him” (**Hebrews 12:2**).

Ephesians 3:20 says that God, by His mighty power at work in us, is able to accomplish infinitely more than we ever would dare dream, ask or hope for.

Last time in this series we covered the first part of our analysis of life as an immortal spirit being. Living forever. Will it be fun? Let's wrap it up today – and talk about our coming *thrilling* life as an immortal, spirit being!

- I'm continuing 2 aspects today – **what will the Being –GOD – the One we're sharing eternity with, be like?**
- **Secondly, what powers and abilities will we have when our flesh is changed to immortality?** We have to review some concepts of God as being fun and thrilling to be with – because why would anybody want to spend eternity with Someone who is dull and boring and predictable otherwise? So part of this sermon I'll hop back and forth with scriptures that show a side of God we rarely hear about in sermons, if ever.

My prayer is that no matter how young or old you are, that this will put new spring in your step, new life in your prayers, new hope in your everyday living. **I had said my focus on this 2-part sermon was on young people** – children and teens mainly – but I hope all of you hearing this will feel young again as you hear the promises of what's to come when we're changed to spirit.

Living forever now, in our current bodies that age, get hurt, get sick would not be fun, especially the older and older we get. And in this life, there are so many hurts, disappointments, setbacks – that we can settle into a depression of wondering what the big deal of living forever is.

First of all, let me hasten to add that my primary view of God is, is what He said to Moses as He appeared to him, in Exodus 34:5-7, on Mt. Sinai. This is the *primary* view we should have of God, without ignoring the other verses I'll show later in this sermon

"And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

So that's our primary focus of God: Someone who is holy, awesome, powerful, majestic, very holy, holy, holy. He is majestic beyond comprehension. He is perfection personified.

But is a HOLY, righteous, fearsome, brilliant God necessarily distant, aloof, and no fun? Would God be eternally interesting – or eventually boring, if He had no new ideas, no new things to do?

Here's what His Word says about the Eternal in context of pleasure and fun:

Psalm 16:11

**"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."**

Psalm 36:8 speaks of "the river of Your pleasures".

That says GOD likes fun, God enjoys pleasure, God has fullness of joy. Be sure to hear my sermon on "God as a Loving Father". I think – unfortunately – many of us have not been great fathers or many of us didn't have fun fathers whom we relished being around – and that's spilled over into our concept of God.

Religion has pictured our Savior so much as the “Lamb” – which He is, that we forget He is also ***called the LION of Judah (Revelations 5:5)***. A ***LION!*** The king of the beasts! A powerful, awesome, strong creature! We see Him crucified on the cross so much, we forget that He is now decked in strength and majesty. We so often hear about His meekness, that we don’t emphasize the verses that show this same Jesus as coming on a mighty charger, and in righteousness even making war (***Revelation 19:13-15***), against those arrayed to fight Him.

The Father in heaven *I* know and want to share with you, is busy and exciting. He has a universe to inspect, prayers to listen to, things to do. Do you picture God as always sitting in majesty on His throne? Probably most of you do! But God is *not* glued to His throne! God is not inactive! When we pray, I often hear people say “and to Jesus, sitting at your right hand”.

Well, that’s true when they’re in formal session. **But do you think Jesus is *always* sitting? Or always at Father’s right hand? I seriously doubt it!**

How do you picture God and Jesus?

Do you know like music? Did you know *God loves good music* – lots of different kinds of music. How do I know? Because the angels SANG for joy when they watched the universe spring into life from nothing (***Job 38:7*** says they sang and shouted for joy) as hot suns and quasars and galaxies appeared in the vast expanses of what was once nothingness. **WHO do you think *taught them how to sing***? God knows harmonics, I’m sure He has a thrilling voice that can go to the deepest bass to the highest soprano in range. Pavarotti will be in awe of God’s voice. When Jesus was born, the angelic choirs sang for the shepherds. When they praise Him in heaven, they ***sing (Revelations 5:9)***. **The 144,000** saints redeemed from the earth will sing before Him (***Revelations 14:3***). **And – God is not boxed into enjoying just western European style music. God created all the human races, all cultures, and will enjoy the music of various cultures and eras and ages of history!**

Our GOD is FUN. Do you like SURFING? Snowboarding? Boogie boarding? Skiing, flying airplanes? Riding motorcycles that roar? You haven’t even begun to warm up yet to what is coming for us! **God surfs the jet streams!** God is dignified, God IS holy – but why do we have so many verses that give us glimpses of another side of His personality: riding on his cherubs whose wings are louder than a thousand thunders, flying on the clouds, and so forth.

I envision Father challenging the Word (the Son of God) to a race, but saying, “But this time *I* get Michael”, as He lets out a deep, loud belly laugh that peals across the heavens! THAT’S another picture of my holy Daddy! And yes, He IS holy, holy, holy. Yes He is righteous—but His way is fun too. As the race begins, and Jesus is in the vehicle described in ***Ezekiel 1 and 10***, they don’t hear “start your engines”—they hear, “warm up the cherubs”, and as those magnificent beings lift their wings, the sound is ear splitting loud. Formula racing cars have nothing on this. **THIS is also a side of our God.**

Why don’t we hear more about THIS side of God’s nature!? That’s what my Bible and your Bible says. Then as they RACE across the universes’ galaxies, fire and lightning *blaze* behind them, making an F-14’s afterburners seem like a matchbox in comparison (***Ezekiel 1:13-14***). Our Father and our King are very fast, and have fast vehicles that can be whisper quiet or as loud and as brilliant as *thousands* of thunderstorms lighting the sky all at once! **THIS** is also your God, this is also your Father who is fun, exciting, thrilling. Jesus’ coming will be as lightning flashing from the east to the

west (**Matthew 24:27; Luke 17:24**). Other verses show angelic beings whose very appearance is as bright as lightning. This is what awaits us too, brethren!

When God wanted to get Israel's attention, He let a trumpet blast blow that was so loud it shook the mountains, and Israelites begged Moses to speak to God privately (**Exodus 20:18-21**). And that same God – Jesus – can speak in still, quiet whispers, as He did to Elijah.

I'VE prayed and prayed over this sermon, that somehow God will INSPIRE me to DEPICT Him correctly, to WIN BACK the hearts of our children to their heavenly Father. HE is the one starting the process of fathers and sons being close again, as Malachi 4 tells us. HE wants you children and teens and young people – and everyone, even the 90 year olds and 70 year olds, HE wants you to know you will someday be immortal, powerful, with new energized bodies! Spread the word – God has a future for you.

Last time we talked about how difficult it is to try to describe life as an immortal spirit being. We likened it to something like unborn twins in the womb trying to describe life once they're born, outside the womb! But at least we're given many scriptures to be able to use, and so that's what we'll do.

The Resurrection, the Wedding

We talked about **1 Corinthians 15** – and the change to spirit being at the resurrection when Jesus returns – probably at the Feast of First Fruits, Pentecost. Jesus had earlier also said that at the instant – imagine it – feeling a surge of new power, as our bodies are transformed into spirit energy, without pain or hurt or limitations or amputations or anything lacking (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**). Then we look up and see our own angels zooming down, flying rapidly through the air right to us, to pick us up and fly us back up to our husband Jesus Christ, the King of Kings (**Matthew 24:31**)! We won't be ready yet to use all our abilities, so the angels have to at first zoom us back up. What a ride that will be! Fast! High! Zoom! Like no roller coaster – perfectly safe, but thrilling!

Now most people believe at this point we come and land on the Mount of Olives (**Zechariah 14**), but I strongly feel that comes later. I personally believe – though I could be wrong – **we will first be taken back up to meet our Father in heaven, as pictured by the weddings of Biblical times.** In those days the groom went to get his bride and then presented her to his father, and then they were married, and then they were able to live in their own home, away from father and mother. I think that's what is going to happen. Then after the wedding in Heaven, clearly described in **Revelation 14, 15, 19** as being set in heaven, we come back down with Christ, now as His Bride, and CO-HEIR with Him of all Father has granted to Jesus. (I described that more in my full sermon titled, Mystery of Christ and the Church, part 3, available on the web. If you disagree with this, there's no need to have a war over it. We'll just have to wait and see what happens. But at least we can speculate).

So yes, I believe after we're resurrected we will ascend, zooming up to the 3rd heaven to be accepted by Father, our dear Abba, Almighty Ever-living one in heaven, have a wedding feast in heaven, which clearly seems to be the setting in **Revelation 19**. It's OK, if I'm wrong and it's sometime else, somewhere else. All I know is, it will bring **tears of joy to you to see how classy God can honor you when the time comes.** It's all about God – but a God who wants to show you and *share* with you His life, His glory, His future. **But God knows how to FEAST.** And His feasts are fun times for all age groups – not just a bunch of sermons and old folks gabbing.

****Don't forget: JESUS, as a man, enjoyed food and drink enough to be accused of being a "glutton and a winebibber".** Of course He was not a glutton or drunkard, *but Jesus must have had second helpings of food a few times in order to be accused of over-eating!* So take heart! The Bible says, for example, that wine cheers God and man. (**Judges 9:13**). God *enjoys* food and drink, though He doesn't need it to live. His gala dinner will be something else!

A few years ago my wife and I – along with about 100 others - - were honored to be treated to a **gala dinner and feast** in the castle in **Prague, Czech Republic**, where the Hapsburg emperors wined and dined their royal guests. We were moved to tears by the grandeur. The room we had was not one that regular public ever saw. In fact, our company had to pay \$100k just to secure the room. The hundred of us who were on this special trip were chauffeured to the castle in our own limousines, met at the door by an official in his official robes, then the guards with their crises-crossed swords, headdresses, uniforms – and into this gold plated room and honored in a way that made me think: I wonder what it's going to be like when Jesus introduces

His bride to Father. I'm not going to miss it. Are you? Some of you are heading away from this glorious life and you need to wake up to what you're walking away from.

We'll get to meet our dear Father. And He'll get to meet you. He can hardly wait to personally hug you into His family. I don't know of any father who will want to wait 1,000 years to meet His children once they're born as spirit children of His. We'll be given the grand tour of God's 3rd heaven, the spiritual temple, the sea of glass. Heavenly Jerusalem *alone* is half the size of continental USA and very high – 1,500 *miles* HIGH! Did you know that? And that's probably just part of the picture. Mt. Everest is 6 miles high. This city is 1,500 miles high. It's a huge, expansive city. God is not against cities. He lives in a huge city! I'm sure He doesn't like what human cities have become, but don't believe He's against *His* kind of city!

How does the Almighty Father dress? Is God stuck in an all-white culture? NO! It is true that angels are often depicted as being in white apparel, but is that what God is stuck in? The priests had a basic white – but also wore an ephod **of gold, blue and scarlet!** And a beautiful turban. Their robe was **blue (Exodus 28:31)** over the linen. They also wore a sash. It was not just basic white. Again–the armies of saints and angels which follow Christ to earth will be in bright linen, but I don't think we should conclude God is stuck in basic white all the time. And by the way, neither do all angels have wings, and they're usually pictured as men – whereas paintings of "angels" often depict a beautiful female with long white wings and long flowing golden hair.

Turn to Psalm 45. We think of the Bride of Christ as being in white linen, as **Revelation 19:8** says in the KJV. Other translations have "white" as "BRIGHT" or "pure". The Greek is *lampros* – meaning *radiant*, bright. The same Greek word is the word used for the "gorgeous" robe the Roman soldiers mockingly dressed Jesus in, after His scourging (**Luke 23:11**). **Acts 10:30**, Cornelius describes the angel dressed in– using the same word – as being in BRIGHT clothing. Some have believed there is some special significance to wearing white based on **Revelation 19:8** – but the word apparently more appropriately means "bright, gorgeous, pure, clean". So my point is, *God is not stuck in white and neither do you have to fear having to wear white forever and ever.*

Psalm 45:13-15 "The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace; Her clothing is woven with gold. 14 She shall be brought to the King [that's KING JESUS!] **in robes of MANY colors;** The

virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You. 15 With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace."

God's tabernacle, God's temple, – were **filled with deep BLUES, purples, reds and lots of colors. GOD IS interesting!** Look at His creation! Look at the marvelous colors all around.

New Names

Somewhere in here could be when and where we're likely to be given our **new names**. I gave a whole sermon on that and it's on my website. Be sure to hear it. It will not be a time of shame, it will not be a time when our sins are revealed – as some fear by misunderstanding some scriptures. No way, brethren. ***Our sins are forgotten, erased, never again to be mentioned.*** This will be a time of honor and praise – hearing the "well done, good and faithful servant" from Christ, and being honored by our Father. Do you see coming before God to be honored – or shamed? It will depend on what we do in this life (**2 Corinthians 5:9-10**), but those who will be before God's throne at that time will be those being honored.

We'll be able to listen to **a few million-voice strong angelic concerts**. You know what I imagine in those concerts? Since God created music and I'm sure has a captivating singing voice Himself, I envision God joining in the concert, maybe doing a guest solo spot for His children. Wouldn't that be fun? And then asking us all to join in and sing along! Don't forget, the 144,000 WILL have their own song to perform (**Revelation 14:1-3**). ***That means even if you can't sing a note today, YOU will be given the ability – finally – to sing, and sing like a lark, like an angel, , like a daughter or son of God, with a wonderful voice!*** Yes you! Even if you can't sing a note right now! In fact, it appears from Revelation 14, that we will sing that exclusive song that no one else can learn, just ***for a special concert for God, the 24 elders and the living creatures before the throne*** – the holy, august counselors God has around His throne. Mighty beings, the true super heroes of the universe. Let's read it in **Revelation 14:1-3**.

Revelation 14:1-3

"Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 3 **They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders;** and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand [every single one of them] who were redeemed from the earth."

THOSE of you WHO have been mutes, or have not been able to sing a single note on key in this life – do you think anything will hold people like you back when you can *sing* the way you feel to God? Praises in song will pour out of you! When your voice is better than the best angelic singing voice, *you* will sing your adorations to your Maker! I can hardly wait!

And then, as we realize we are on holy ground – before the fiery stones, on the sea of Glass – we will also all bow in holy adoration, as to realize His plan for us has been successful. *He* saved us, He gave us birth, He did it. Are you any of us really going to risk missing that? some of you listening to this, are doing just that. Come back to God.

In my dream, I thrill to think of hearing the singing of King David and enjoying his concerts on his harp, singing for us the songs he wrote as a boy while watching his flock of sheep. I can.

God ALSO loves the dance! He even tells us to praise Him in the dance! When have you ever seen *that* in religion? God enjoys the **DANCE**. And not just ballroom dancing! You know who can dance? Our *African* brethren – now they know how to move. And who do you think put those abilities into them? Why of course: their Creator did! Wait til we attend a dance put on by God in Heaven – with angels, with us all from our different cultures, and with Father beaming on the side, until He decides to show us a few moves no one has ever seen! I know I'll get flak from a few of you fuddy-duddies who see our God as always glued to His throne with Crazy Glue. Well, we'll see who's right. Yes, I see God as enjoying the dance.

Psalm 149:1-4 GOD WILL HAVE DANCES, EVEN AS PART OF HIS PRAISES!

"Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise in the assembly of saints.

2 Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation."

Remember David was "a man after God's own heart", and when the ark came back to Jerusalem, David was cart-wheeling and dancing in the streets! Or do you somehow think that dancing in the streets is somehow *undignified*? Go tell the King of Israel – David –that! Go tell God that, for HE inspired Psalm 149, that we should praise Him in the dance! God dances. God *invented* dancing, I believe! *GOD* is fun too! Turn your heart to Him, the true God, the FUN God, the Eternal God, who wants you to be there with him forever and ever and ever--and ever! Don't do anything stupid to miss out on what is being planned.

Jeremiah 31:13 says the redeemed of the earth will be returning to Jerusalem with dancing and singing – the old and the young together.

Now you young people, listen: I gotta warn you to be prepared for something: when these old stodgy 50, 60, 70 and 80 year olds you see in church get changed to spirit, and have new power, a new forever young body – look out! They're going to be like a penned up calf let out of her pen. ***When God says it's time to dance – these old fogies with new bodies and new energy are going to show you youngsters some new moves that their arthritis and other problems have prevented for 30 years or so! I can hardly wait!!*** Remember they have much more experience than you do, but just don't have the bodies to do what their mind wants to try out... until the resurrection, that is. You 50-80 year olds, I hope you heard me. Let's show these youngsters how we will move when we have the new bodies! It's going to be fun! **Jeremiah 31:13 says the old and young will dance together.**

Sure, the kingdom is going to be mostly about LOVE, kindness, forgiveness and mercy and all of that. I know that. But remember I'm *focusing* this time on a different angle, to remind you and all the young people that God is fun too. I do not mean in any way to reduce God's glory, to reduce any of God's dignity, God's holiness... but I just want us to see this other side of God we rarely hear about.

After the new names, after the wedding, after the glory and honor, we are given spirit-being white chargers to ride back to earth on to set up the kingdom of God on earth, ruling the Millennium. Young men and teens, especially boys – seem to enjoy mock battles. This won't be a mock battle. This will be the mother of all battles. . . and like it or not, we will be right in the middle of it, but with our spirit bodies nothing will harm us. In fact, the armies below don't stand a chance.

Revelation 19:11-19

"Now I saw **heaven** opened, and **behold, a white horse**. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 **And the armies in heaven [and that will include the SAINTS], clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.** 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords ...[go to v 19) 19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army."

Zechariah 14:12, tells us how they will die. By Jesus' word, their flesh will dissolve.

After the rebellion, Satan is bound and cast out (**Revelation 20:1-4**), and we'll start to set up God's thousand-year kingdom and government. NOT in heaven – but here on EARTH. In fact, we'll be very busy helping rebuild the earth and make it like Eden. Right here. There *will* be survivors, there will be people to heal, to teach, to guide. **Some of you listening to me are with the Seventh Day Adventist faith**, and I'll gladly take your questions on that, as I know you believe the millennium is in heaven. The millennium is not the kingdom, but will be *ruled* by the kingdom of God. You and I under God and Christ will *be* the kingdom of God.

Are you getting ready? **If not, turn back - - turn your heart to your Father in heaven, and to your spiritual forefathers**—the prophets and people God used to write the Bible. Time is running out on being able to do this. Don't delay. God has called *you* – but if you don't respond, then God has a backup plan. He has to allow for free moral agency. Many are called – few are chosen. So we have to make our calling and election sure as it says in 2 Peter 1.

****I want now to continue telling you and** especially our young people – what our lives could be like as spirit beings from as much as we can gather from scripture. Last time we talked about **the choice to travel through time and space, or just suddenly appear where you want to be. FAST. Instantly fast.** Or we could streak across the sky like a flash of lightning.

God – it says in **Romans 1:20** – is revealed by His creation. That's why I love Animal Planet channel. You can't watch videos of animal antics and not realize our God is not only serious and holy when He has to be serious and holy, but **our God can also be a hoot. I say that with utmost respect.**

God can be very funny. How do I know? Because our God *invented* laughter. OUR God invented smiles. He tells us to "rejoice and be glad and LEAP for joy" – **Luke 6:23**. You oughta see our African brethren do that. They know what it means to "leap for joy". Our God also created

some very funny *animals*. You can't even play with your cat or dog for a few minutes without realizing how fun and funny God can be. He loves to have fun—good fun that is fun tomorrow and the kind of fun you can tell your grandchildren about. Satan's fun is fun *now*, but has a kick later that kicks you in the groin. Hangovers. Accidents, illness – Satan's "fun" gets you into trouble later. That's not fun. That's not real fun. That's just fun for the moment.

So start watching the animals and creation and you'll see a *fascinating* person in God. The Venus Fly-trap. The porcupine, the skunk. How funny is that? **The first time his first skunk** let loose with that awful smelly squirt – I just know God had a big ol' belly laugh that rocked the walls! Getting the picture? The first time some baby goats – kids – butted their mama goat from behind, don't tell me Jesus didn't elbow Father's side "did you see that?" ***Creation reveals what our father and Jesus are like.***

It's SATAN who has tried to turn people off of GOD by giving them RELIGION and tying GOD somehow to that! God's life is a way of life, not "RELIGION". Don't confuse the concept of "church" with "religion" either. ***Then to make it worse, mankind has turned the worship of God into something boring to a lot of our youth. We've copied the structure of the Roman system*** – which isn't at all the way church was run in Paul's day! But that's a different sermon. My point is: no wonder our youth have left "the church" in droves over the years. NO wonder our youth are getting pregnant out of wedlock, getting drunk, finding their fun outside the church. WE adults have to do a better job of showing God's way is fulfilling, fun, exciting.

Let's learn more about what we'll be able to do as spirit beings:

SIGHT AND AWARENESS of spirit beings

I wear glasses. Every two years or so I have to get new glasses because my eyes are getting worse and worse. What are God's "eyes" like? What will yours and mine be like? I know one thing: the older I get the worse my eyes get! Can't see well in the dark anymore, can't see things far away too well – and I'm only 52, as I give this.

God has been around forever. What are HIS eyes like? And what will our eyes be like when we're changed to spirit? If you're afraid of glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration, or just don't like having to wear glasses – when we're spirit, all that will change.

Even in the physical **creation**, there are some **INCREDIBLE VISION abilities** that some of God's animals have – so how much more in the spirit world:

We're told in **Romans 1:20** that we can learn a LOT about God through His creation. You can figure out a lot about even us humans by the work we do. I've told my son and children over and over that the work we do is our signature – it tells everyone *A LOT* about us, and our character: whether we are detailed people, who do quality work or if we're sloppy and careless.

When you look at inventions, we can see a lot about the inventor. Same thing with creation: we can look at animals, trees, insects, whales and fish – and learn a lot about God.

Chameleons can see all around itself, with eyes that can move independently of the other. In the Caribbean, there is a four-eyed fish called the Anableps that has 2 eyes for above the water line and

2 eyes below the water line. Then in nature you also have *compound* eyes like those of insects. The dragonfly has 30,000 lenses, for example, so insects see the world as a mosaic of thousands of small images. This really helps them see motion much better than we do – though we see things more clearly than they do. **Falcons** have such great eyes that if they could read, they could read a newspaper from way up there in the sky. American **antelope** have the equivalent of 8-power binocular vision – which is why they are so hard to hunt. They see you coming a long ways away. **Owls**, cats, and so many animals can virtually see in the dark.

Have you heard of the “**ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM**”? What *we* can see – called “visible light” is just a very, very tiny portion of what’s out there. Besides **VISIBLE** light, there are **RADIO** waves, microwave, infra-red, ultraviolet rays, X-ray, and Gamma rays. **GOD** can use all of that if He chooses, but probably **GOD** Himself is way beyond that. We can see through buildings, through bodies, with our X-rays, MRI’s, and other gadgetry using other wave lengths. We can see clearly in the blackness of **NIGHT** with infra-red. The military does it all the time. Wouldn’t it be something to have X-ray vision, infra-red capabilities, or even other wave lengths?

Bees and butterflies can perceive ultra-violet light. **Piranhas**, on the other hand, can detect the longest red wavelengths which makes the dark, black rivers they swim in seem to light up when there is prey in there. Rattlesnakes and goldfish, can see infrared radiation – sensing heat - - so a rattlesnake can sense or “see” warm blooded prey in total darkness. By comparison, we humans see a relatively tiny band of wavelengths – the reds, yellows, blues and violets.

Superman isn’t for real. God, however, is. And God does have x-ray vision – or much better. And so will we – for we “shall be **LIKE** Him” remember (1 John 3:2).

Cite Jeremiah 23:23-24 asks

“Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?” says the **LORD**; **“Do I not fill heaven and earth?”** says the **LORD**.

Psalm 139:7-12 shows us that God is essentially everywhere and aware of everything. Beware: this is not saying the New Age doctrine that every living thing is part of God, or God incarnate.

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
 8 If I ascend into heaven, you are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
 9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
 10 Even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.
 11 If I say, “Surely the darkness shall fall on me,” Even the night shall be light about me;
12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day;
The darkness and the light are both alike to You.”

We’re amazed at the technology we see the military has – to be able to bomb at night, see in the dark with awkward gadgets strapped to the heads of soldiers. To **GOD** that is so infantile!

Hebrews 4:13

“And *there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him* to whom we must give account.”

DON'T EVER think you're doing something God can't see. We look around, if we're about to do something wrong to see who's watching. How ignorant. Maybe no human sees, but millions of angels can see. Plus the 24 elders, the cherubs, the seraphim, the living creatures around God's throne – plus God and Jesus themselves. We live and move in their sight at all times. **LIVE WITH THAT AWARENESS** more. And remember, you'll someday have those same powers.

HEARING

How's your hearing? Will you need hearing aids? Do you want me to say that again? Ha. Just kidding. Nowadays in technology we have things that can listen in to private conversations in a building many yards away. We have ships off shore that can spy on telephone conversations many miles away. Not bad, but not too impressive to God yet.

In creation, animals have our hearing beat all to pieces. There are animals considered almost **BLIND**, but see by **SONAR or RADAR** – like bats. Their echo-location abilities are so high, that they can fly through a dark sky and not only “see” what lies ahead, but also locate and catch bugs, prey and so on. One study I read said they had strung piano wires all through a room and then released bats in the room – and they flew rapidly around without ever touching a single wire. Bats can release even up to 200 squeaks a second.

Conversely, God has equipped some moths with the ability to listen in to the bats frequency and take evasive moves at the last split second, so they're not eaten!

Whales, dolphins – use **ULTRASONIC** echo-location clicks to locate fish to eat in murky waters. They are now known to even use these ultrasonic sounds as **STUN GUNS** against their targets.

On the other end of the spectrum, some animals use **INFRASONIC** waves to communicate – wavelengths so low in frequency that they're inaudible to human ears. **GIRAFFES**, for example,

do this. We think they are being quiet, when they may be communicating non-stop with another giraffe. Other animals also use very, very low infrasonic sounds to communicate to one another without being heard by predators. **WHALES** can communicate over **HUNDREDS** of miles with these same kind of very, very low frequency waves.

The world is much noisier place than we can even begin to imagine – we just don't hear it! Perhaps that's merciful!

What about God, though? How does God monitor His universe? What can HE hear? And how does God communicate over great distances? I doubt we'll understand – until we're there.

Psalm 139:1-4 Today's English Version

“LORD, you have examined me and you know me. 2 You know everything I do; from far away you understand all my thoughts. 3 You see me, whether I am working or resting; you know all my actions. 4 Even BEFORE I speak, you already know what I will say”

Psalm 94:8-11

“Understand, you senseless among the people; And you fools, when will you be wise? **9 He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see?** **10** He who instructs the nations, shall He not correct, He who teaches man knowledge? **11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man,** That they are futile.”

GOT IT? BEFORE YOU AND I EVEN SPEAK, HE HAS ALREADY HEARD OUR INTENTS. **Matthew 6:8** says He knows what we need before we even ASK.

Got that? God hears our thoughts! Even if he's trillions of light years away from you, He hears your thoughts. He certainly can hear your whispered prayers. But it gets even better.

So yes, God hears our whispers, our thoughts. We don't need to scream to God to have a fervent prayer. God's spirit (**Romans 8:26-27**) even interprets what our emotions have screwed up – so He can descramble our mixed up thoughts! He hears our doubts, our hopes, our dreams. He heard Sarah's quiet amused laughter when God said she'd have a child. And He always hears you.

But God can still keep His own thoughts private from others – even from Jesus if He chooses, and so I suppose we will be able to as well, when we are part of that family. I know that is so, because of what it says about the exact day of Jesus' return:

Cite Matthew 24:36 NKJV -- "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only."

If not, how could we even allow any thoughts, if we wanted privacy? Once God has proven and tested us, He won't need to know our thoughts – is my guess.

There's another verse that clues us in about privacy. **Revelation 2:17** says we'll be given a name that is known only to us and God. No one else. So that shows there will be privacy of thought as well, doesn't it, if no one else can find out something you and I know.

I could be wrong, but that's my opinion. So if your hearing is going, don't worry. You'll get it back – and then some – when you're a spirit being with a spirit body.

OK – but what about SEX in the Kingdom of God?

OK, you knew we'd have to cover it sooner or later. One reason some of our young people don't want God to hurry back too soon, is that they've been told there is no marriage in the kingdom (**Matthew 22:30**), and therefore – it stands to reason – **no sex** either. How can one have godly sex without marriage? So how can eternity be any fun -- without sex – goes the reasoning. One teen told me years ago that was the most depressing thing he could think of: Eternity without sex! What could be better than sex, he asked. (Remember someone asked for the booklet “After sex then what?”)

Let's make it real clear to everyone first of all that there is nothing wrong, and everything right, about sex in marriage, done out of love and tenderness as the Bible teaches. GOD created our sexual organs. The first recorded command to humans was to “be fruitful and multiply” (**Genesis 1:28**), which I read as “go ahead, have sex, make love, make some babies...”. GOD said that. The “marriage bed is undefiled” (**Hebrews 13:4**), but God will judge adulterers and fornicators. He

wrote the Song of Solomon after all!

Does God have an equivalent? So far, we've seen that God's idea of speed is far faster than we can even imagine. That God's eyesight is vastly superior to anything in creation. That God's hearing, memory, strength, power, you name it – is the apex of what is possible. So does it stand to reason that God would give us something great like sex, and then have nothing better in this case?

I find that hard to believe, but neither can I tell you what the “better thing” is right now. But we can speculate a bit. I think He must have something far, FAR better. Take what follows as speculation and please don't write me harsh letters about this unless you have a better idea.

We know there will be a marriage in the kingdom, in fact: Christ and the Church (Revelation 19). Somehow, I think we'll find our answer in there. Surely the affection, fidelity, love, exhilaration, glory, ecstasy of a happy marriage will find its pinnacle in this relationship that you and I are being called to be a part of. Since we have never been spirit, it is not possible for us to understand and see yet fully what marriage to Christ will be like. He's perfect in every way, and I can only dream that it will be incredible. It's hard for us guys to get a handle on that – but trust God here too, that something awesome must be in store.

That's the main thing I want to say about it. But let's look at other things now on this topic:

Let's look at it objectively. Sex feels good, is fun, and **results in new life**. New life is created in what was supposed to be a very intimate act, very loving union, very close time of hugging and kissing and becoming ONE literally. The climax, the final exhilarating feeling, of sex happens when the seed of a man is released and unites with the seed of a woman, or when a woman herself climaxes.

Just consider this: God's spirit is what creates NEW LIFE. God begets us anew by HIS “SEED”. Did you know that?

1 Peter 1:23

“having been *born [or begotten – gennao] again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible [seed],* through the word of God which lives and abides forever...”

God sends His spirit when He creates new spiritual life. That process must start with GOD'S call – then our *response* to His call is a process called *repentance*. This begins the transformation into something and someone who has never been before! A NEW creation. Be sure to hear my in-depth sermon on this topic called “New Creation”.

Just as there is great JOY and EXCITEMENT when a man and wife come together in the process of creating new life, in the act of sex, there is also **great JOY in heaven when a sinner repents**. You know the passages **in Luke 15:4-7** and also verse 10 – how the man who finds the lost sheep REJOICES when it's found, or the woman who finds the lost silver piece. And then in **Luke 15:7** “**I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.**”

Luke 8:43-47 another account of feeling something leave....read the account of the woman who had spent her money on doctors for a hemorrhaging situation.

43 “Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped.

45 And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"

46 But Jesus said, "***Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.***" 47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately.”

That concept is given also in **Luke 6:19**.

I don't know exactly what God has in mind. I'm probably not even close yet, but I just cannot imagine *us* having something better - in anything - than what God or His spirit world has. So I suggest you not worry that we'll somehow lose the pleasure of being sexual beings when we're changed.

We could go on and on and on.

The Greatest of these is...

In the end, though I'm going to enjoy being very powerful, I'll be enthralled with zooming across the universe or teleporting somehow from spot to spot –and though I'll be fascinated by my powers of being able to see through walls and people, to hear thoughts, to fly, to soar – and realize all my childhood dreams, I think those powers are going to be for the purpose of LOVE, of showing God's great LOVE.

The “greatest of these is LOVE” (**1 Corinthians 13:13**). Everything God does, everything He says, everything about His law – is for love. The first and 2nd greatest commandments are about loving God and loving neighbor.

We'll be able to **HEAL**. Oh how I wish I could heal my sister, who has had a stroke and sits in her wheelchair paralyzed, and she's only 53. Or, I'd love to heal my brother-in-law dying of leukemia. My other sister and brother have awful pains. So do millions and millions of others.

We'll win the hearts and souls of people by being *different* kinds of leaders than they've ever seen or ever had before. Our love and the loving things we do for them will win them over.

We'll be finding the lost captives, and reuniting them to family.

Here's what's ahead:

Isaiah 35:10

"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing,
With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”

Turn now to Isaiah 55. All creation awaits our change (**Romans 8:19**), knowing the destruction of the environment will stop, as we do things that will establish God's way of peace and JOY – even to the trees, the mountains, the jungles, the forests, to all the environment!

Isaiah 55:11-12

“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

12 "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; **The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**”

As children of God, we'll have power even to resurrect when need be. When the thousand years are over, I believe with all my being that we'll be allowed to participate in the very personal resurrection of our most cherished loved ones.

I want to be in that first resurrection, the “better resurrection”, partly because I want to hold my *son* again, the one who died – our beloved DAVID. I foresee my wife and I holding each other's hand, and when given the signal that the 2nd resurrection can begin, being able to bring David back to life, our 4 month old who died in 1982. Oh what joy!

And my Mom, and my Dad, my grandparents, my dear cousin Eva who died of cancer at 39... you get the picture. Do you want to miss that?

And then having a body and life that will never, ever, ever sin again. It says about God, “in Him is no sin” – **1 John 3:5**.

Verse 9 says,

“Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.”

Now brethren, John had earlier said that if we say we don't ever sin now, we're liars... so he's not talking about our lives now, but when we're born of God. At that time, we cannot sin! WOW! Sin feels good at the time, sometimes – but it always kicks you hard later. No more of that!

We'll never be tempted, for we'll be like Him. And God cannot be tempted with evil, and never again will we be able to be. Never a wrong thought again. We'll never again have a hateful imagination or a lustful thought. Pride will be gone. Imagine never thinking badly about someone again. Never, ever again. To never ever sin again.... You bet. That's coming.

To have nothing but love, joy and peace – as well as incredible patience and kindness all the time is beyond our experience so far! God is good, all the time – and so will we be when the weaknesses of the flesh are a thing of the past. This goes way beyond flying fast, way beyond walking through doors and walls – it is about what has ***happened inside of us*** that can never be changed to evil, ever again!

Do you enjoy new things? God does. He's not done with new. It will be just the beginning. We'll be part of the new heavens and the new earth. I can't imagine God not letting you try your hand at creating a new world, a new star, a new galaxy. What fun! And we'll be ready to do that when the time comes! What joy lies ahead, what excitement.

And “of the increase of His government and of peace shall there shall be no end” – **Isaiah 9:7**.
God will show us eternally new things.

You young people have an opportunity to be part of this. A part of a new organization that is just beginning, but will take over the whole universe! Some of you are letting the temptations of this world draw you away! Some of you don't pray, don't read the Bible. And some of you do pray and do study, and God bless you to do it consistently.

“ALL that I have is yours” – is what the Father of the faithful son said to that son, when he got jealous because they had killed one calf for the prodigal son who had returned (**Luke 15**). To that son, the Father was saying, “Son, *everything* else I have is yours – ALL the flocks, ALL the herds you see, ALL the hundreds of acres of farm, all the buildings, all the inheritance, it's *all* yours because you've been faithful” (**Luke 15:31**).

Brethren – especially young people: don't sell out your future for a false and fake future Satan is trying to lure you away with. And you folks over 50, one tool Satan is using a lot lately is depression. Discouragement, feeling down, feeling like such a failure. I've fallen for that too. But we must recognize Satan will use depression, will use hormonal changes in our bodies, to discourage us from what GOD is offering. Watch out for that.

Romans 8:18

“I consider that what we suffer at this present time cannot be compared at all with the *glory* that is going to be revealed to us.”

Praise God for what lies ahead, and never, ever let it go. And spread the word! Tell others to hang on. Share this message, this website, this future – if it has helped you.

Philip W. Shields

