

40 Visions in 40 Days

In 2008 I was pastoring a church in Kennewick, WA when a handful of local churches agreed to begin the year with 40 days of prayers and fasting. Our heart's cry was for the manifest presence of God in our city. It was an amazing and powerful time.

Near the end of the 40 days, I sensed the Lord speak to my heart in a soft and subtle way, saying: "I will give you 40 visions in 40 days." These visions began on February 11th, 2008.

As I begin to share these, I will, from time to time couple a few together for easier reading. Today's installment is from February 11th, 12th and 13th, of 2008.

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I felt like I've just entered a deeper realm of the Spirit. I see myself crossing the completed section of a bridge that's being repaired and I reach the other side.

Observing myself, I see the Lord, as a Lion, approach me. He takes me in his mouth by my midsection and carries me off to my left. He's not biting me, just carrying me. It's frightening, but painless.

The scene changes from observing to participating. I can see the Lion's face and left eye up close. Both my arms are at my sides and pinned within his grasp. His eye is at first brown, and I can feel his great love and compassion. Next his eye changes to a sparkling and radiant emerald green and I can feel a surge of life flowing through me; and then to a sparkling and equally radiant ruby red as passion builds within me.

It felt like I am being carried a long way for a long time. The Lion drops me off in the middle of a war zone, turns around and walks off. I understand that I am not to follow him. I look around me and see the effects of war everywhere, damaged buildings, wounded and dead soldiers, artillery and gun fire. Somehow, I know that I am in charge, in command of at least one

of the sides in this battle. I sense that there are more than just two sides to this conflict. By the looks of things this battle has been raging for quite some time now.

Suddenly, I'm rushed from all sides. Many soldiers are streaking toward me seeking direction, needing, wanting, begging for orders. Initially I'm overwhelmed by their need, but I quickly recover and begin barking out orders. These well-trained men respond instantly and quickly things change from chaos to order.

I see a bunch of arrows at my side, enough to fit within both my hands together. These are not ordinary arrows; though they are small, they each have the power of a nuclear weapon within them. I intuitively know that these represent my words. They're very powerful and they need to be used with the greatest of care.

It felt like I'm in the North. The bridge seemed to be spanning from west to east as I observed from the south and then we headed in what felt like a northern direction.

I see soldiers with rifles in their hands and bandages over their eyes. They have a will to engage in the battle and fight, but they can not see the enemy and they don't know where to shoot. Some soldiers are extremely frustrated by their inability to see, so they remove their bandages and begin using them as white flags of surrender. Still others removed their bandages, but kept their eyes tightly shut because they are use to being blind.

I walked behind a line of soldiers crouching at a wall and touched each one on the back of the head, instantly their sight is restored and with it both joy and hope. For some, with their sight restored, their rifles morph into much more powerful weapons... machine guns, rocket launchers, bazookas. As these newly sighted soldiers lean against the wall and engage in battle - the enemy is quickly pushed back. Some of the enemy soldiers turn and run in fear of these soldiers and their upgraded weapons.

It's clear that I am not personally engaging the enemy, my role is different in this battle. I'm here to encourage the soldiers under my command.

Others soldiers come over to me, seeking my counsel, hoping to encourage the soldiers in their charge. They appeared to be sergeants under my command, but responsible for additional troops. I gave them each a quick word of counsel and off they run eager, encouraged and energized.

Pulling back, I can see the larger picture. We have an advancing circular perimeter, gaining ground outward in all directions - step by step. However, I sense that we are vulnerable from above, an air attack would do us great harm. With this concern still ringing in my heart I hear the Lord say: "I have you covered from above and below."

With this the scene suddenly changed and I'm in a sewerage treatment plant, a big one, one big enough for an entire city. Something down here is clogged or broken and it desperately needed to be repaired.

I see a broken sewer line under a city. It's enormous and instead of carrying the waste out of the city, it's saturating the foundation with filth. I can see two words written, one on each side of the severed pipe. One side said, "Gossip" and the other said, "Criticism." These activities have caused the waste pipe to split. And now all of our waste is seeping into our foundation.

I realized that Wisdom and Revelation are standing beside me. I know that Revelation has shown me this picture so **I turn to Wisdom and ask, "How can this be repaired?" and he answers, "With humility and love. Humility will bring together what gossip and criticism have separated. Love will cover and restore."**