



Can We Be Friends Now?

Believe Without Seeing, Part 2

Barbara Brown, MSE (BB): You know the interesting thing about this to me is the familiarity. It's just another indication 'cause we're getting ready, Tom is getting ready, to share more about how Jesus passed off the baton to Paul, because here He is, it's like so many times familiarity keeps God from doing what He could do or what He desires to do. Jesus' disciples slept when He was praying. He asked and He said, *"Could you not tarry an hour with Me?"*

And you see the different places throughout His journey that they didn't have a clue Who He was. Here in *Acts 1* He comes back and spends 40 days telling them, being visualized to them, and telling them that which concerns the kingdom of God, and He's imparting all that He needs to to them for their journey. He came back for that. This is the same risen Lord Who's getting ready to call Paul as the apostle He chose. But you watch that He spends 40 days telling them of that which concerns the kingdom of God and then in verse four: ***"Being [fore]gathered, He charges them not to be departing from Jerusalem, but to be remaining about for the promise of the Father, 'which you hear of Me (to receive the Holy Spirit).'"***

So in verse six, they came together and it doesn't say who's asking Him, ***"Lord, art Thou at this time restoring the kingdom of Israel?"*** and He's having to put order again. The risen Lord is preparing them for His departure *again*. During the same conversation, He was lifted up.

He sets order again: ***"Not yours is it to know times or eras which the Father placed in His own jurisdiction. But you shall be obtaining power at the coming of the holy spirit on you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and entire Judea and Samaria, and as far as the limits of the earth."***

Did any of them have any idea when He got through with that declaration...? He's straightening them out: *"It's not your business what the Father is going to do,"* and then He tells them what is their business and as He was saying this ***"while they are looking, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him from their eyes."***

You never know when someone who God has sent to give you the word...God sent Jesus back: *"OK, give it another 40 days. Go with the anointing of the risen Lord. Go back. I'm giving You this opportunity; go back and tell them that which concerns the kingdom."*

I don't know who it was who chose to interrupt what He was saying and ask Him this question on a much lower level. Here they're wanting answers and He's straightening it out and He's departing and Scripture talks about, *"Beware lest you miss your day of visitation"* and *"Don't quench the Holy Spirit."* And I have seen so many times that people don't realize the holiness that God has sent in their midst to give them a word of God, to give them the next step, to watch over them, whatever it is, but one day that person, that spirit, is going to depart.

Jesus got to come back and you know, you don't know that He didn't get to the right hand of the Father and it's like, *"They still didn't get it. Can I go back one more time and tell them that which concerns the kingdom of God?"* I would not want to have been the person who interrupted Him and asked Him a wrong question from a wrong realm.

There's just a place of not having to know anything, but just knowing God knows and staying within His peace and presence. It's almost like when Samson did not know the spirit of God had departed. Had they stayed in the spirit and surrendered and just soaked up all that He was doing, all that He was speaking, all that He was imparting, but I would think it's in familiarity.

The same Jews who wanted Him murdered said, *"This is Joseph's son. We know Him."* No, you didn't have a clue! And I think so many times had they known that Jesus just came for this 40 days and He was leaving again, but did they get into familiarity thinking, *"Oh, He's come back, He'll be with us; let's ask Him questions again"?*

No, it's a whole different paradigm. You're before the risen Lord, Who came back to tell you what you needed to know. And they should have been or they could have built on all that He told them prophetically: *"Come on, let's go. They're gonna kill Me."* He told them prophetically all that was gonna happen and it all came to pass.

And now as the risen Lord, they should have had the respect and the honor of all He spoke prophetically to them to tell them what's going to happen. They should have had the humility and the honor to keep their mouths shut and just receive, to dare not interrupt what the Holy Spirit of the Living God is doing because they did not know that they just had breaths left at that time and they would never see Him again.

But so many times people don't know what they lost until it's gone. Had whoever said that just been quiet and not wanting to know something more, just stood or knelt in such humility and honor that the risen Lord was there to impart to them all they would need to know to finish their journeys and they were breaths away from Him going back to the Father and them not seeing Him again, but to me it just clarifies why Jesus couldn't trust any of them to give a new

word: *"Go to the nations."* He tried with Peter, lowering the sheet down and the Gentiles speaking in tongues.

But here, what would Yeshua have imparted to them had no one asked any questions from too low of a realm for Him to even deal with? So as He's finishing, He's having to course-correct one more time. So like John the Baptist, His cousin, said, *"But I didn't recognize Him."* Here the risen Lord is and they're not recognizing Him. They're still thinking it's school time and the teacher's just teaching.

No! He was trying to impart to them an anointing, tell them all about what was coming up, and He had already been confirmed as a prophet. Jesus is the spirit of prophecy, and here He is trying to cover them with all that concerns the kingdom of God and got interrupted with somebody asking questions.

And God only knows the times that He has sent me into people's lives to give a word of God and they interrupt on a wrong level rather than receiving the impartation because they're trying to figure it out in the natural realm. *"The flesh profits nothing; it's spirit that gives life."* And so then He just chose to go. [He] let them know, He busted them graciously; it's not like He had to tell Peter: *"Get behind Me, sa-tan! You're not looking on the purposes of God, but on the purposes of man."*

He was gracious: ***"It's not yours to know the times and eras which the Father placed in His own jurisdiction."*** In other words, *"You still don't understand. I came back to give you guys everything you needed and I'm giving you one last instruction: Go stay in Jerusalem till Holy Spirit comes upon you."*

Anyway, I just wanted to interject that to encourage you, when God is speaking...I lived in Tucson, AZ for a while and Jesus would come, and I would smell [Him]. He came to the top of the upstairs landing is where He would come. I would be going upstairs for something or going downstairs and I would smell. It's like, *"He's here!"* He smelled like the Rose of Sharon, Scripture says. And I would smell and I would just stay. No matter what was going on I would stop 'cause He was there to meet with me.

And so there's, you know, it's just grievous that none of them knew He was getting ready to leave. You never know when the holy people or the holy things, what's holy to God, has come into your midst. Only by the spirit of God do you know, but *"Beware lest you miss your day of visitation."*

Had He not been interrupted, and this is conjecture, but so much it's like Scripture says, *"the world couldn't contain the volumes"* of what Yeshua imparted, of all that happened. But it's like, had He not been interrupted, would He have imparted to them all that they needed? You know,

would any of them have been one of the ones who walked with God like Enoch and was no more? Who wouldn't have had to have been martyred?

I mean, the sovereignty of God knows and I'm not trying to get into that but man, a word of God, the presence of God, the risen Lord being there to tell you, to show Himself to you, and tell you what concerns the kingdom of God! How do you quench the spirit of God? How do you stop the flow that the risen Lord is bringing down?

And the only way I can identify with that is so many times giving people from the Lord what they need, even though it's not what they want. It's just amazing to me because while Tom was reading that, I was watching Heaven's View on that and did that question keep them from getting the last thing they needed to know?

So, they basically stayed in Jerusalem. They basically stayed with, I mean they did stay with the Jews. So Jesus, the resurrected Lord, has to knock a "*Jew of the Jews*" off his horse and blind him and call him to be His apostle.

There's a grave danger in familiarity, when you're looking in the natural rather than by the spirit of God. And many have missed their day of visitation because they've gotten stuck in familiarity with someone called and chosen and set apart by Almighty God, which is why those people usually keep on walking because God won't make you waste your time on people who are not alive and alert to what the spirit of God is doing and receptive. God will just send you to someone who is.

So I just pray that we not miss our day of visitation, that when Jesus shows up or He sends someone to us with a word, and when God shuts the door no man's gonna open it, and when He opens doors, no man's gonna shut it.

So as we go on, as Tom is revealing to us, sharing with us, his revelation of Paul, and that has been since he received the revelation of God concerning Paul so many years ago, what would it be 30 years ago?

Dr. Tom Taylor (TT): The end of 1971.

BB: And as we're watching and we're going to be listening as Jesus passes off the baton, He finishes up with His eleven and then He just leaves. And then why it is...? I just love learning the ways of God: What brings Him close, what is an affront, what pleases Him, what doesn't. I just love learning from these things and until I was in Heaven's View today to see how that happened, it's like Jesus, just it's like: "*I'm not going to stay down here and tell you what you want to know when I'm trying to give you what you need. So, OK, just stay there until the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you shall be My witnesses, both in Jerusalem and entire Judea and Samaria, and as far as the limits of the earth.*"

And then He just went on back. It's like, *"I'm done."* But then He reappears to Paul. I praise God for His sovereignty, but man, I don't want to miss my day of visitation! And I just wanted to share with you all what I was seeing of that, because it really builds the platform for what we're going to be doing, what Tom is going to be sharing with us in the days to come. But I'm just seeing that, it's like that's when the call went to Paul.

TT: Yeah, 'cause it was obvious the other guys weren't going to go anywhere with it, not like they could have.

BB: Well, and Scripture doesn't say they did.

TT: No.

BB: Father God, I thank You. I pray for no choices. Oh God, I thank You for divine revelation and Your wisdom, Your strategy for the victory, for Heaven's View, for Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, the words, the ways of Yours You've left behind. Help us to honor holy things, holy utterances.

TT: And there's one more big lesson from this first chapter of *Acts* that I want to get into, but I'll wait until tomorrow and Lord willing, we'll look at it together.

So until then:

May YaHoVeH bless you and keep you;

May YaHoVeH light up His face toward you and be gracious to you;

May YaHoVeH lift His face to you and appoint peace for you.

Amen.