

To see God

We would all so much like to see the Lord, talk to Him and we wish that He would speak to us. However, a problem arises when He reveals Himself to us in such a way that we can see Him, and that we are able to hear Him when He speaks. May I explain in the words of C.S. Lewis: "There comes a moment when the children who have been playing at burglars suddenly become quiet: was that a *real* footstep in the hall? There comes a moment when people who have been dabbling in religion suddenly draw back. Suppose we really find Him? We never meant it to come to *that!* Worse still, suppose He had found *us?*" So we see the problem is not seeking God, but what to do when we find Him!! When God reveals Himself, it's all about God and not about us anymore. Over and over in the Scriptures we read that people saw God. Look what Isaiah experienced when he saw God in the temple (**Isa.6**). What did the apostle John see on the island of Patmos? (**Rev.1:9-20**). Read about Paul's encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus (**Acts 9**). According to the descriptions in the Bible of occasions where people met God, it is clear that seeing God can often be a most frightening experience. God is our Father, but He is also the sovereign God. Jesus is the Saviour, but He is also the Lord. His words are as the balm of Gilead, but also like a double-edged sword, ripping open and laying everything bare. These past months I read the stories of revivals in history again. There are accounts of people who experienced a genuine revival, who say this was a terrifying experience for many – even for devoted Christians. There are those who say they hope they never experience a revival again – especially not the first phase of revival when God's holiness starts burning among people. Let us draw near to God and ask Him to be merciful when He Himself approaches us.

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