Experiencing The Godhead - Lesson #2 The Mystery of the Stairway - Part 1 of 2 The words of Jesus appear in red font

Matthew 13:52 TPT, Bold font is my emphasis

He responded, "Every scholar of the Scriptures, who is instructed in the ways of heaven's kingdom realm, is like a wealthy home owner with his house filled with treasures **both new and old**. And he knows how and when to bring them out to show others."

#### Additional Thoughts Relating To The Previous Lesson

After sending out the Christmas and New Year Devotional I was overwhelmed thinking about how much Jesus wants me to be with him and began to realize how much I needed to confess and repent for the way I had prayed most of my life. I hate to admit I've been much more concerned about the opposite truth of Jesus being with me because I constantly doubted if the following verse was true:

Matt 28:20b Underline is my emphasis "...I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Then a few years ago this truth was impressed into my heart during a TheoPhostic ministry session where Jesus appeared to me when I was about 7 years old in the back yard of our house. It was at my favorite place where I played marbles with my friends. Jesus knelt down on the ground across from me and we played marbles for a while. Occasionally I'd looked over at his face and could see how much he was enjoying playing with me. Sadly, whenever I've shared this story I would often be asked, "Who won?" But they completely missed the point, thinking it was a competition. No, it was about intimacy, friendship, and Jesus enjoying what I enjoyed, and my learning he wanted and enjoyed being with me.



It's tragic that most believers pray wrongly such as, "Jesus, please be with me today" I wonder if the Lord Jesus doesn't twist his head as he hears that prayer and thinks, Why do they ask that when I've told them I would always be with them. Don't they believe me? If so, why don't they thank me for being with them rather than asking me to be with them?

Have you ever spent some quality time meditating and praying on the opposite truth; how much Jesus wants you to be with him? We need a revelation just like when Jesus walked with his disciples in his earthly ministry and took them everywhere he went. Their primary way of learning was watching how Jesus did his Father's works, and then following his example and doing it themselves.

John 12:26 Expanded Bible, Underlined is my emphasis Whoever serves me must follow me. <u>Then my servant will be with me everywhere I am.</u> My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

And Jesus wants the same thing for us today. Here is an illustration from Patricia King's book, "Powerful Encounters In The God Realm". In the second chapter is Faytene Grasseschi's testimony of time she spent with Jesus and learning of his heart and concern for abused children and women. Click <u>Here</u> for the link where you can read the chapter from the book (If it doesn't open at the right page it starts on page 25).

# The Mystery Of The Stairway – Part 1 of 2

The next two lessons will focus on four bible verses that include the idea of a stairway (E.G. anything that can be used to ascend or descend on). This lesson covers the first two verses that include a mystery, and the next lesson will cover verses three and four.

### First Mystery:

1 Kings 10:1-5 Underlined is my emphasis (Compare 2 Chrn 9:1-4)

#### The Message

10 Now when the gueen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with difficult questions. 2 So she came to Jerusalem with a very large retinue, with camels carrying spices and very much gold and precious stones. When she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart. 3 Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was hidden from the king which he did not explain to her. 4 When the queen of Sheba perceived all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, 5 the food of his table, the seating of his servants, the attendance of his waiters and their attire, his cupbearers, and his stairway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her.

Amplified Bible

10 Now when the gueen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with riddles. 2 So she came to Jerusalem with a very large caravan (entourage), with camels carrying spices, a great quantity of gold, and precious stones. When she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about everything that was on her mind [to discover the extent of his wisdom]. 3 Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king which he did not explain to her. 4 When the gueen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, and the house (palace) which he had built, 5 the food on his table, the seating of his servants (court officials), the attendance of his waiters and their attire, his cupbearers, his stairway by which he went up to the house (temple) of the Lord, she was breathless and awed [by the wonder of it all].

In this historical event we're looking at another situation involving King Solomon and a woman, not his bride to be, but the Queen of Sheba who had heard about Solomon and came to see if he was as great as what she had heard about him.

You may remember watching the 1998 film "The Staircase" a 1998 television film about the story of the spiral staircase, believed by some to be miraculously built, at the Loretto Chapel in Santa Fe ,NM. The film stared William Petersen as Joad, the traveling carpenter with spiritual talent as well as woodworking skill.



The Queen of Sheba marveled at many things about Solomon, most of them things she would have been knowledgeable of because she was very wealthy and being a queen she may have been responsible for overseeing things in her own palace. So being an intelligent woman it

doesn't seem surprising that she wowed and awed of seeing the majesty of Solomon's house, the food on his table, his servants, etc. But the stairway is listed last and it may have been what left her breathless. Don't you think it's possible that she had a stairway in her palace? But maybe it was just an ordinary stairway like many of us have in our houses, and possibly it wasn't a spiral stairway like in the movie mentioned above.

So what was so much different with what Solomon used to go up to the house of the Lord? Solomon's house was constructed right next to the Temple so that Solomon could ascend on the stairway without having to go outside and entering with everyone else. Was it a spiral stairway, or something even greater?

I've been researching this on the internet but there isn't a lot of information about this stairway that seems sound to me. Here are some comments that I've found:

"In the Bible, <u>two spiral staircases</u> were depicted as being a part of Solomon's Temple, which would suggest that spiral stairs were being used some 3000 years ago. <u>https://www.salterspiralstair.com/blog/spiral-stairs-in-history-part-1/</u>

"And while we may think that lighthouses with circular stairs are particularly historical, circular staircases go back thousands of years. In the Bible, <u>two spiral staircases</u> are depicted as being a part of Solomon's Temple, perhaps providing access to a sacrificial altar." <u>http://www.fairportharborwestlighthouse.com/stairway-heaven/</u>

Neither of the above articles provides any bible references. Here is the only other bible verse that I can find that might relate to Solomon's stairway:

I Kings 6:8 NASB Underlined is my emphasis

The doorway for the lowest side chamber was on the right side of the house; and <u>they would go up by</u> winding stairs to the middle story, and from the middle to the third.

Note that it's not made clear who "they" were. However, it's important to note that there were three levels so the stairway had to be tall.

So what is the mystery of this stairway; is it Jesus or something else? Assuming that it was two spiral staircases as mentioned in the quotes above, there was one built in 1438 in the Burg of Graz, Austria. It was expanded from 1494-1500. When reopened, officials and civilians marveled at the Doppelwendeltreppe, or "Double Spiral Staircase" that traveled two floors to the top of the tower.

However, today it's referred to as a double-helix, more commonly used to describe the structure of DNA.

III. What is DNA?
DNA shape is a double helix
Deoxyribose sugar and phosphate form the OUTSIDE backbone
Pairs of nitrogen bases form the rungs or INSIDE of helix
Two strands connected by HYDROGEN bonds

I'm certain that there is more spiritual truth to the I Kings 10:5 than what I've mentioned, so I'm certain that the Father has more to reveal to me in the days ahead. If any of you have additional information or insights, please share with me.

# Second Mystery:

Song of Solomon 2:14 Underlined is my emphasis

The Passion Translation (TPT)	New American Standard Bible (NASB)
<sup>14</sup> For you are my dove, hidden in the split- open rock. <u>It was I who took you and hid</u> <u>you up high in the secret stairway of the</u> <u>sky</u> . Let me see your radiant face and hear your sweet voice. How beautiful your eyes of worship and lovely your voice in prayer.	14 "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, <u>In the secret place of the steep pathway</u> , Let me see your form, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your form is lovely."

In this verse the Shulamite is recounting what Solomon had said to her (see verse 10), so it applies to a past event between Solomon and his bride to be. Yet it also has a greater spiritual application of a future event of Jesus speaking to his bride to be, how he sees her, what he has done for her, and how she got to where he had taken her. We could look into each of these items but only one of these items is important for this study.

Solomon wanted to get alone with and spend time with his fiancée, just as men do today while courting the one they've chosen to spend their lives with. Solomon used the method that was available to him. One translation reads "stairway", while another reads "steep pathway". The implication of both is something physical that allowed them to ascend.

Solomon, symbolic of Jesus, had taken his bride-to-be and hidden her up high. What could be the spiritual application of that? This may refer to what Jesus did for believers, his future bride, when he ascended into heaven as spoken of in the following verses:

Eph 2:4-6 Underlined is my emphasis

The Passion Translation (TPT)	New American Standard Bible (NASB)
4 But God still loved us with such great love. He is so	4 But God, being rich in mercy,
rich in compassion and mercy. 5 Even when we were	because of His great love with which
dead and doomed in our many sins, he united us	He loved us, 5 even when we were
into the very life of Christ and saved us by his	dead in our transgressions, made us
wonderful grace! 6 <u>He raised us up with Christ the</u>	alive together with Christ (by grace
exalted One, and we ascended with him into the	you have been saved), 6 <u>and raised us</u>
glorious perfection and authority of the heavenly	up with Him, and seated us with Him
realm, for we are now co-seated as one with Christ!	in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

This passage doesn't tell us what Jesus used when He "raised us up" into heavenly places, but that shouldn't surprise us because since he is God he didn't need to use anything physical. Note that this occurred prior to the actual wedding; Jesus just wanted to spend time with his bride to be before the wedding. Acts 1:9 doesn't mention the disciples seeing the multitudes that Jesus took with him when he ascended, but it certainly did happen. I imagine that Jesus' purpose was much the same as Solomon's, to tell his bride to be what he thought of her; how beautiful she is to him, how beautiful her eyes of worship and lovely her voice of prayers. Do you think it's possible that Jesus is still doing that today? Could he be providing opportunities for his future bride to visit heaven so he could have some private time with those individuals who hunger and thirst for intimate times with him?

## Challenge:

My prayer for all of us is that we will greatly hunger and thirst for an opportunity to spend time with our heavenly bridegroom and seek after it with all our hearts and visit with him in heaven prior to our wedding.

I'm so excited about the revelations I've been given concerning the next two passages. I'm planning to have the next lesson emailed out within one month. Please keep me in prayer as this next Sunday I will be sharing the introduction to our seminar and explaining how visiting heaven applies to healing the broken hearted. The first seminar class begins March 7<sup>th</sup>.

In the Father's Love and mercy, Jim & Susan McCorkle Repairing The Breach Ministry www.rtbministry.net