

Your message burns in my heart and bones, and I cannot keep silent. (Jeremiah 20:9)

The testimony of JESUS is the spirit of the prophecy. (Revelation 19:10c)

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Upper Room — Portal to Union with God and His Realm (Follow-Up)

In writing, there seems to be more that could be said, but for the sake of keeping the papers from getting too long, some thoughts are often left out or could have been explained further. With this said, I want to add a few thoughts to the *upper room* and *seeking above* where Christ is seated, as mentioned in a previous [insight](#).

We are told that, following the final ascension of their Master, the ones closest to the Lord Jesus met in an upper room of a building as they waited for the immersion in the holy spirit (immersed *in union* with the risen Lord). Some translations refer to this room as *upstairs* or *upper chamber* or *large second-floor room*. The point is that it was not on the first floor of a building but rather on an upper floor.

And when they went in, they went up to ***the upper room where they were waiting***: both Peter and James, and John and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alpheus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the brother of James. (Acts 1:13 LITV [bold italic added])

I have proposed that the upper room symbolizes the heart, and, in the case of Jesus' disciples, signified a heart condition, that is, a love for their Lord and God. I have also likened this to an exhortation from Paul.

So if you were raised to life with the king, ***search for things that are above***, where the king is seated at God's right hand! (Colossians 3:1 KNT [bold italic added])

Without doubt, many reading this verse see it through the lens of a "dying and going to heaven" or "being raptured to heaven" gospel. Some translations reinforce this with the use of expressions like *set your heart on what is in heaven* or *give your attention to the things of heaven*, as if heaven is central to the gospel.

For years, I have been reminding folks that this is not the gospel message preached by the apostles and given to us in scripture. It has been read into scripture as if it is the primary message. But it's not! The gospel is about resurrection, raised up in the likeness of the Son of God who overcame death and has brought forth a new creation. We who have been given His faith to believe are now part of it and are progressively growing up as new creations, maturing as sons of God—soon to manifest as sons and daughters of glory.

You see, the message of scripture is God's plan to bring heaven to earth or, if you will, for the eyes of the earth (metaphorically) to be opened to the reality that has existed all along. I believe heaven is not a place many, many light-years away, as in *up there*.

To make the point, let's consider an example from science. This may seem off point a bit, but hold on, there is an analogy to be made in explaining the upper room of our heart in light of Jesus as the ladder between heaven and earth.

Using language of the physicists, heaven could be likened to a dimension—the *metric physicists use to describe reality*. Interesting! Growing up, we were taught there were three spatial dimensions of width, height, and depth. However, string-theory physicists say there are many more dimensions, possibly ten or more, that they attempt to define or prove through mathematical equations, much like Einstein's $E = mc^2$. From Einstein's theory of relativity has come the theory of space-time worm holes (tunnels) between points in the universe. There are other theories that are the stuff of sci-fi movies, based on theories involving the physics of time and dimensions. From these arise the concepts of time-travel between dimensions through portals and the possibility of other beings residing in these dimensions.

With a little imagination, one could see heaven as a dimension, God's dimension where He and all His host dwell. Further, this dimension is only a door or portal away, meaning it is much closer than we realize. We probably shouldn't even think of it in terms of space and distance. It's right here now but, for the most part and to most people, it is veiled. In general, humans cannot see God's realm with the natural eye, for it only operates in a very narrow bandwidth. Apart from spiritual vision that we all are to have, there are those who are specially gifted to literally see into God's realm. As I see it, the danger for those gifted in this way is to over-emphasize the so-called *supernatural*, and in so doing, run the risk of losing sight of what the good news is really all about.

Just to be clear; the gospel is centered in Jesus and His resurrection. If we are not anchored in Him who is central, supreme, and preeminent or, using another metaphor, if He is not the foundation and superstructure of our gospel and God's building project of a dwelling in spirit, then we have, as Paul would say, *another gospel*.

Most gospel messages today treat heaven and earth as two separate issues, as if they are so incongruent that they will forever remain so. This goes along with Platonism that sees all pertaining to the material world as evil. Don't forget that when this earth was restored, Elohim said it was very good. A further split is made when hell is incorporated as a major tenet of the gospel, which it should not be. The result is the gospel becomes a message of heaven and hell (where are you going when you die?) and of heaven and earth (when you

die or are raptured, you go to heaven, leaving this ol' god-forsaken earth behind). See: [Hell - Reality or Pagan Imagery](#).

Dear saints, with Jesus as the anchor, foundation, and center of the gospel, we must see that He is also the ladder or bridge between heaven and earth. Here's the analogy: Jesus opened the portal between God's dimension and ours. He brought forth an [Open Heaven](#) that is ours to not only see but to live—that is, to live by His anointing that comes from heaven through the spirit of God, the spirit of truth.

There is one more point vital to where this paper is going. The vision of Jesus as the ladder or portal connecting heaven and earth reveals the plan that God has had all along—that is, **heaven and earth in complete union openly manifesting as His new creation built by His creative love**. In other words, the plan is that heaven will no longer be hidden (veiled) from earth but will be manifested in the earth. This is at the heart of Jesus's prayer that He gave to His disciples: ***Your kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven***. It is about God's very good creation called *earth* being immersed in the [realm of God](#) where His will is perfectly executed. The proof is discovered in Revelation 21-22 where John describes the new heaven and new earth coming together as New Jerusalem—the heavenly, set-apart (holy) Jerusalem—coming down out of God's realm to reside on a new (in character) earth. This is a highly symbolic description of the new creation with heaven and earth in union.

For another view of earth's immersion, see: [All Creation in the Womb of God](#).

With this most important backdrop, let's consider *the upper room* and *seeking above* in light of the fact that we are *in Christ* and *Christ is in us* through His spirit that was given to us. Going one step further—both the Father and the Son are in union with us and, by extension, have taken up residence in us who have been called and chosen by God.

“I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, ***that they also may be in Us***, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. (John 17:20-21 NASB [bold italic added])

Paul makes a further clarification when he declares: ***For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God*** (Colossians 3:3).

As ***Christ-abiders***, which is what we are called to be, it is imperative that the eyes of our heart be enlightened to see that the ladder between heaven and earth is within us NOW because we have the one who is the ladder in us. We are in union with heaven and earth because we are in union with the Father and the Son. This is an objective truth that is being

(or: must be) worked out in us through subjective experience (i.e., [sanctification](#)) as we seek after God, knowing God the Father and Jesus Christ whom He commissioned to rescue the world.

Thus, we come to the expression *seek above*. It is through the spirit we seek the things above, that is, the things of God's realm that are to manifest on earth. Stated another way; it is heaven coming to the earth of our heart and our heart reaching into heaven, like a two-way street. It's not about seeking heaven so that we *go up there*; rather, it's about one day soon having spirit-animated bodies, being intimately immersed into God's realm, no longer limited to earth but being of both heaven and earth.

According to Strong, the Greek word for *above* can be translated as *upward*. It's the same word Paul used: *I press on toward the goal for the prize of **the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*** (Philippians 3:14). This is not a spatial calling, as in flying upward from this world in a fanciful gospel ship (as a song goes); it's about being fully immersed and perfected in Christ Jesus who is the manifestation and embodiment of both heaven and earth, just as He is of the embodiment of the Kingdom of God. Everything of God is discovered in His Son. This is why it is so profound and glorious to be in Christ and Christ to be in us.

Early on in his life in the Lord, Paul was amazed by this truth.

But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, ***was pleased to reveal His Son in me*** (Galatians 1:15-16 NASB)

We can only imagine what went through Paul's mind—the one who persecuted Jesus through His body—when this revelation came to him. He was brought into union with heaven, that is, the above *in* Christ—a spiritual reality. Call it a ***dimensional shift!*** He longed to be perfected into this *aboveness* or *upwardness* of Christ, and he saw the climax of this coming through the (*out-*) resurrection from among the dead—the transformation into conformity with the body of His glory (spirit-animated body) when the Savior comes *from* heaven, not being taken up to heaven. We are waiting for this, just as Paul did in his day! We are in the day in which this will finally manifest after 2,000 years of waiting.

Now, returning to portals; keep in mind that 2,000 years ago, the concept of a dimension, as we postulate it today, was not part of the language of that day. Talk of portals or dimensions was not known, although as I read scripture, I wonder if the ancients, especially the prophets who were given dreams and visions and encounters with those of God's realm, actually had more of a grasp of these things than most people today.

When we read of an expression like “look up” (similar to *going up, upward, above*), the tendency is to think of looking up in the sky as if heaven is somewhere out there, so far away we could never literally see it.

But what if many of the amazing scenes documented in scripture by the ancients simply came through opened portals or doorways between God’s realm and ours, through what are called *visions*? These scenes were not so much about looking up, as in a few feet off the ground or hundreds of feet into the sky, but about peering into God’s dimension that was unveiled for a moment, like a curtain being pulled back. Perhaps, the cloud that hid Jesus as He ascended back to His Father for the last time was actually hiding a portal or it was the portal itself.

For some, all this might seem to be a bit strange or, perhaps, much ado about nothing, simply a quibble over words. What I’m trying to convey is that, by analogy, we who believe have a spirit portal residing within us called *the spirit of God* because Christ is in us. This leads back to the *upper room* or *above*. These words are simply a way of conceptualizing a spiritual concept—one that takes place in our heart. We have a spirit portal, meaning the upper room is our portal to the presence of God and His realm.

We have something so tremendous within us at this very moment that, given the hour of God’s clock, we, more than ever, must see what we have been brought into by the creative love of God. We are in union with heaven and earth by the holy spirit, the spirit of love that resides within us now. This is the anointing that is ours because we are in the Anointed One and the Anointed One is in us. This is the spirit of truth that teaches us all things of God and opens our eyes to see God’s “above”. When we peer into God’s realm, we see Jesus, the heaven of God!

[The moment has come](#) for the eyes of our heart to not only be enlightened to God’s truth, but for us to live this out in this day of darkness. The portal is being opened ever so wide for those who are called and chosen—the victorious body of Christ, **[the corporate body stretching back centuries that is about to finally reach maturity](#)**.

We are being called to be the anointing of God’s Son on earth, to be a living integration of heaven and earth through *the Christ*, the Anointed Body. The moment has come for it to be so in *the* living and vibrant reality into which we have been brought.

[Jesus is the Reality!](#) He is our portal!