IOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN

November 15, 2014

<u>My Vision:</u> I was standing on the shoreline of what I first thought was the sea, but the water became the darkness of the universe in the star filled night sky. I heard a voice in my spirit saying, "You are standing at the edge of a place of endless, immeasurable revelation of God Himself and He wants to open up the treasures of Himself to you."

His desire to share Himself with us was both an invitation and an expression of His love. The context was that as Christians we had known and experienced God, but just like the vision of the edges of the sea of the universe, we stopped at the fringes of who He was. It was as though we had drawn an imaginary line as to how far we could go in experiencing and enjoying God this side of heaven. We had stopped at that level of expectation of His calling us into the unknown depths of HIMSELF. Yes, Paul said "we know in part", but surely this is the call of the Lover for His beloved as described in the Song of Solomon; "He has taken me to the banquet hall and his banner over me is love"; it is the cry of Jesus, the bridegroom for the bride; "You have stolen my heart my sister my bride."

It occurred to me that God's call to Abram to leave his home in Ur and travel to a place unknown carried the promise that we were to be His inheritance; Genesis 15. 1 (KJV); "the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision saying "Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield and thy exceeding great reward." I understood that to mean that God Himself was OUR great reward and that He manifests the reward by opening up the treasures of Himself to His redeemed creation. The result is us entering more fully into an intimate and close relationship with God; Genesis 1:26; "Let us make man in our image and likeness."

Then I recalled Ezekiel's experience of the increasing flow of water from the river under the Temple altar; at first it was only ankle deep, then knee deep then waist deep until finally it was so high Ezekiel could not cross; where the river flowed, everything lived. God is inviting us into this river of life (HIMSELF) that is so wide, so deep, and so vast that though we can enjoy deep intimacy with Him now, we will never be able to plumb the depths of Him even throughout eternity.

Will we do as Abram did and respond to His call to journey into the vast unknown of God's love? Are we afraid that we're becoming too heavenly minded to be of any earthly good? Will we be led into a mystical cult experience or will we find the ultimate goal of existence, God Himself? Abram was encouraged not to fear but have faith and that is the call to us today, for without faith it's impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). Jesus said if we ask for bread will our earthly fathers give us a serpent? If we ask our heavenly Father for all that is God will He give us Satan?

Jesus told His disciples that there were things He couldn't tell them because they didn't even understand earthly things. These are some of the things that the natural man cannot conceive or comprehend, but for the hungry, thirsty spiritual man they are a glorious door of hope. This is the path that opens before us. This is the journey to which He has called us; explore OUR unknown of HIMSELF. Deuteronomy 4:29 (LB); "You shall find him when you search for him with all your heart."

Shalom.

Ron Harris

