<u>Kingdom is Open Heaven</u> <u>Wednesday August 28, 2024</u> Dr. Pete Norris

It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter. (**Proverbs 25:2 NKJV**)

He doesn't hide things from us. He hides things for us. The Old Testament serves that purpose.

The prophets were called seers. The gift was to enable them to see the unseen in their day as well as to have a knowing of the coming days. The prophets were serving both the wild olive branch as well as the natural branch - the Gentile and Jew who would make up that mysterious people called the Body of Christ.

He had told them that having the Holy Spirit with them was better than having Him.

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. (John 16:7 NKJV)

"For I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it." (Luke 10:24 NKJV)

Prophets and Kings had an awareness of superior reality that was coming. And as much as they longed to be a part of it, it was forbidden. Let's assume Solomon is one of the kings of which Jesus was talking about in Luke 10. How must it feel for a man of his wisdom to long for our day. He was feared because of this wisdom that seemed to come with a presence, for wisdom is a person.

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— (I Corinthians 1:30 NKJV)

Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. (Acts 2:29-31 NKJV)

Prophets see beyond their day and speak accordingly.

Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face." Then the Lord said to him, "Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die." So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it The- Lord - Is -Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. (Judges 6:22-24 NKJV)

God's job is to get me to Heaven. My job is not to go to heaven; my job is to bring Heaven to earth through my prayer and obedience.

Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. (Genesis 28:10-12 NKJV)

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" (Genesis 28:16-17 NKJV)

And he called the name of that place Bethel; but the name of that city had been Luz previously. (Genesis 28:19 NKJV)

This is the first mention of the house of God. The elements of this story are simple open Heaven, Father's voice, Angels ascending and descending, and ladder on the earth reaching Heaven. This is a picture of the church. Jacob saw the church. The house of God is the gate of Heaven. The church is the eternal

dwelling place of God. It is the nature of humanity to crave, dream, and desire. You can't crave something sweet if something sweet doesn't exist. The hunger for more in God testifies that more actually exists and is available. That's what drove Abraham to look for the unseen.

For he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. (**Hebrews 11:10 NKJV**)

It was the inner conviction that something large, more real, eternal, and built by God Himself Is available for all.

In My Father's house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you; for I am going away to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2 AMP)

He knew that we had an inner awareness of the heavenly realm that existed in the heart of every person.

Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence— (Isaiah 64:1 NKJV)

It was a prophetic word in the form of a prayer. Anointed prayer always has a prophetic nature to it.

The cry for Heaven to influence earth had once again exploded from their heart. This time it was a prophet. God had already set the stage to answer this and instructed Isaiah to pray and declare it.