



Ministry of Biblical Studies

MAY BIBLE STUDY SERIES

May 21st | "Revelation Through Dreams, Visions and Prophetic Insight"



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Welcome to the Metropolitan Community Church Ministry of Biblical Study Classes May 21, 2025

“Revelation Through Dreams, Visions and Prophetic Insight”

Scripture Focus:

Joel 2:28; Acts 10:9-20

Introduction:

God speaks in many ways—including through dreams, visions, and prophetic insight. These modes of revelation are part of how the Holy Spirit communicates divine truths, warnings, guidance, and encouragement to both individuals and communities. This study invites believers to discern and steward such revelations with spiritual maturity and humility.

I. SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND & EXEGESIS:

1. Joel 2:28 (NKJV)

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.”

- This verse is part of Joel’s prophetic message of restoration and renewal following a season of locust plague and national crisis in Judah.
- Joel foretells a future time when God’s Spirit would be poured out universally, not just on prophets, priests, or kings.
- This prophecy points forward to Pentecost (Acts 2) and the ongoing ministry of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament Church.

Key Points:

- Inclusivity of the Spirit’s work: sons, daughters, young, old—all can receive divine revelation.
- Dreams and visions are highlighted as vehicles of God’s communication.
- Prophecy is democratized—no longer restricted to a few, but accessible to all Spirit-filled believers.

2. Acts 10:9–20 (Selected Verses)

“Peter went up on the housetop to pray, and while he prayed, he fell into a trance...He saw heaven opened... and a voice spoke to him... While Peter wondered within himself what the vision meant, the men sent from Cornelius had made inquiry...”

- Peter’s vision is pivotal in the early Church—it marked the inclusion of the Gentiles into the body of Christ.
- As Peter prayed, he entered a visionary state (trance), where God used symbolic imagery (unclean animals) to challenge his preconceived notions of purity and separation.
- Simultaneously, Cornelius (a Gentile) received a vision from an angel, demonstrating how divine revelation can occur in different forms to multiple people to confirm a single mission.

Key Points:

- God uses visions to prepare, challenge, and guide His people.
- Divine revelation often stretches the receiver beyond cultural or religious comfort zones. (v.10), meaning divine mysteries inaccessible by human reason alone.
- The combination of prayer, openness, and obedience allows for fruitful response to supernatural insight.

II. TOPIC EXPLORATION

A. Biblical Examples of Dreams and Visions

- Joseph (Genesis 37; 40–41): God revealed destiny and solutions through dreams.
- Daniel (Daniel 2, 7): God used dreams and visions for national and prophetic messages.
- Paul (Acts 16:9–10): A vision of a man in Macedonia redirected his missionary journey.
- John (Revelation 1:10): Received the entire apocalyptic vision by the Spirit while “in the Spirit” on the Lord’s day.

Insight: These experiences often came during times of prayer, crisis, or transition—and carried significant spiritual weight.

B. The Role of Prophecy in Personal and Communal Revelation

- Prophecy can edify, exhort, and comfort (1 Corinthians 14:3).
- It brings clarity, direction, and sometimes correction.
- Prophetic insight is not only personal—it often benefits the larger community when stewarded wisely.

Caution: Prophecy must be tested (1 John 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21) and aligned with Scripture. It should never promote fear, pride, or division.

C. Handling Divine Revelation with Wisdom and Humility

- Pray for interpretation (Daniel 2:18; James 1:5).
- Seek counsel from mature believers or spiritual leaders.
- Avoid hastiness in sharing; revelation requires spiritual discernment and timing.
- Stay rooted in the Word so that dreams or visions don't lead away from foundational truth.

III. GROUP EXERCISE: SHARING & DISCERNING

- “Share (if comfortable) a time you received a ‘divine download’—a dream, vision, or moment of clarity—that seemed to come from beyond yourself.
- How did it come? How did you know it was God? What did you do with it?”

Closing Reflection & Encouragement:

“God still speaks in extraordinary ways, but He trusts us to handle His revelation with reverence. May we be people of the Spirit—ready to dream, willing to listen, and wise enough to act in love and truth.”