

# GOD'S VISION

## LIGHT AND LIFE AND LOVE MINISTRY



### A Close Encounter

When the Roman general Pompey successfully entered Jerusalem in the first century B.C., he was determined to satisfy his curiosity about certain stories circulating around the Mediterranean world about the worship of the Jewish people. After conquering this city he made it one of his personal priorities to ascend the Temple Mount to find out the truth behind the puzzling reports that the Jewish people had no physical statue or image of God in their most sacred place of worship, the Holy of Holies.

To Pompey it was inconceivable to worship God without portraying Him in a type of physical likeness, as a statue. So Pompey "bravely" entered forbidden territory, the most-holy sanctuary—and lived to tell about it. What Pompey saw left him greatly puzzled and bewildered. He found no physical statue, no religious image, no pictorial description of the Hebrew God—only an empty space. He left the temple without saying a word!

What this powerful emissary of Rome experienced in Jerusalem, he had seen nowhere else on his travels in the empire. How unlike the worship of other nations! How different from other religions! Jerusalem represented a totally different God from those to whom the rest of the world paid homage.

Pompey did not understand that this was the invisible God (Hebrews 11:27) who was not to be portrayed by human imagery, but who inhabits eternity (Isaiah 57:15)—the One who revealed Himself to Moses as "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14). This God had eternal life within

Himself (1 Timothy 6:16).

This omnipotent, all-knowing, invisible God has to be worshiped in spirit and in truth because He is Spirit (John 4:24). But, to the ancient Romans, Babylonians, Assyrians and Egyptians, religious imagery constituted a normal part of their worship. Initially this is why Pompey refused to give credence to reports from Jerusalem of a people honoring their God without the aid of statues. He knew of no such worship elsewhere. It made no sense to the Roman mind to worship a god without knowing what he looked like.

But when Israel was called out of Egypt—out of abject slavery and religious deception—this generation of God's people was introduced to the One whose unique requirements would make His adherents different from the rest of the world (Deuteronomy 7:6). So it was to a nation of former slaves that the Ten Commandments were given (Exodus 20:1-17)—a moral code not of human origin, but divinely authored and delivered to ancient Israel by the eternal God.

## God is Spirit far above us!

"For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" (Isaiah 57:15).

God "inhabits eternity" and therefore is not inhibited by the physical laws of time and space. Yet He is quick to forgive and encourage those who are really repentant and desire in their hearts to do His wills (Isaiah 55:6-7).

And, although there is ample scientific evidence from many fields of learning confirming the existence of God, the most meaningful proof remains personal.

When we really achieve a private spiritual relationship with God as our Father and Jesus Christ as our elder Brother, we know that they exist.

We should not underestimate the power of God's Word. Lydia of Thyatira heard the preaching of the apostle Paul. As a result, "the Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul" (Acts 16:14; compare Romans 10:14-15).



Coming soon the Light and Life and Love Ministry the annual Handmade Crafts and Jewelry sale. All proceeds go to the Sanctuary and Botanical Garden Fund



Need information contact:  
Minister Robert Koch at  
850-206-0610

# LIGHT AND LIFE AND LOVE MINISTRY

## Everyone Belongs with God

Light and Life and Love Ministry  
8 Ruberia Avenue  
Pensacola, Florida 32507  
Phone: 850-206-0610  
www.lightlifelove-ministry.com



**Matthew 21:22 - And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him."

**James 1:5-8**

If any of you lacks wisdom let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

## Inspirational Bible Verses

I can do all this through him who gives me strength. 1 Peter 5:7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:31

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit? Philippians 4:19

**Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32**



## Believers in God

"This beautiful system of the sun, planets and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being . . ."—Sir Isaac Newton (17th-century British mathematician and physicist)

"It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible" — George Washington (first president of the United States)

"Personally I have always taken the view . . . that Almighty God, far from setting the universe in motion and then letting the drama enact itself—as many think—is an ever-present, ubiquitous arbiter in all affairs"— Paul Johnson (20th-century British journalist and historian)

"I want to know [God's] thoughts; the rest are details"— Albert Einstein (20th-century German-American scientist)

"The intellectual beauty of the order discovered by science is consistent with the physical world's having behind it the mind of the divine Creator"— John Polkinghorne (20th-century British scientist and author)

## Believers in the Bible

"So great is my veneration of the Bible that the earlier my children begin to read it the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country"— John Quincy Adams (U.S. president 1825-1829)

I believe that the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man" — Abraham Lincoln (U.S. president 1861-1865)

"In all my perplexities and distresses, the Bible has never failed to give me light and strength" — Robert E. Lee (chief Confederate general during the American Civil War)

"There are more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than any in profane history" — Sir Isaac Newton (17th-century British mathematician and physicist)

"The Bible is stamped with a Specialty of Origin, and an immeasurable distance separates it from all its competitors" — W. E. Gladstone (19th-century British prime minister)