

THE IMPACT OF AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

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INTRODUCTION:

Throughout history, individuals have had supernatural encounters with God that transformed their lives and created a passion in their hearts to live for God.

- Moses encountered God at a burning bush and received an assignment that altered the course of two nations. Egypt was brought down and Israel was set on a new course destined for the promised land.
- Isaiah's encounter involved a revelation of God's holiness that changed his life forever. He became aware of what needed corrected in his life and God provided the solution with a burning coal.
- Paul encountered Jesus on the Damascus Road and was completely transformed. Throughout his life he would refer to this experience. He testified before King Agrippa who was "almost persuaded" to become a Christian.
- Mary encountered an Angel whose message set her apart from every woman ever born. Her soul and spirit were both impacted by the encounter. **LUKE 1:46-49**
- The Apostles and 500 plus others encountered Jesus after His resurrection. The impact is still being felt today.
- We can't make God give us special encounters, but we can position ourselves to have one.

1. Isaiah's encounter. **ISAIAH 6:1-8**

- A. Clarity. A clear picture of God enthroned in worship. He saw the holiness of God and his life in the light of God's Glory.
- B. Conviction. What he saw illuminated his own life. It located him and pointed him in the right direction. He became transparent before God.
- C. Cleansing. God's solution is not to condemn, but to cleanse. His lips and his attitudes were cleansed. His sin was purged.
- D. Commission. He is now prepared for service, a useful instrument in God's hands, having a passion to live a sanctified life among unsanctified people.

2. Paul's encounter. **ACTS 9:1-6**

- A. Clarity. A clear revelation of Jesus.
- B. Conviction. "What do you want me to do?"
- C. Cleansing. He got saved, healed, and filled with the Spirit. **V17**
- D. Commission. To bear Jesus' Name before kings... **V15**

3. Our encounter.

- A. Clarity. Seeing through the eyes of God.
- B. Conviction. Aware of changes to be made.
- C. Cleansing. God cleanses and equips those He calls.
- D. Commissioned. Authorized to carry out a duty.

4. We position ourselves by:

- A. Surrendering our will to God. **MATTHEW 26:39**
- B. Seeking with the whole heart. **JEREMIAH 29:13**
- C. Being still in our emotions. **PSALMS 46:10**
- D. Ask God to expose what needs changed. **PSALMS 32**
- E. Resist thoughts to do things our way. **2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5**
- F. Thank God for the promise of His presence. **HEBREWS 13:5b-6**
- G. Praise and worship consistently. **HEBREWS 13:15**