

"What is Your Vision Saying" 9/8/91 Am.
I hope It's saying I see a Need (not I have a want)
Webster defines a "Vision" as

- ① Something supposedly seen, by other than NORMAL Sight
- ② Something perceived in a dream or trance
- ③ The ability to perceive something not actually visible with the naked eye

God's purpose in visions was to give Guidance & Direction

The Bible speaks of a vision as:

- ① To perceive or
- ② a revelation

The word Vision says to my heart, "that it's a way God can show us our needs when all we consider is our wants"

I believe God uses visions as a means to convey His message to us — And as a way to provide encouragement to His children

Visions are not new // They date back thousands of years - And not all visions were Beneficial to the Individuals - (But they ALL conveyed a message)

When the rebellion occurred in Heaven, It was due to a vision //

"The devil had a vision of ^{his} sitting on God's throne"
(It was a want, Not a need)

When those people in Genesis Chapt. 11 Decided to Build the Tower that would reach to Heaven it was due to a vision they had //

"They wanted to make a name for themselves," // In the Bible says // "And let us go and build a tower, from earth to heaven (It was what they wanted / Not what they needed)"

When Annanias of Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit, It was because of a vision they had //

2/ They felt that they needed to
consider their wants / rather
than the needs of the church
(It was not a good vision and
they died following it)

Oh, but there have been ^{some} very
profitable visions recorded in the
Bible, if you'll turn in your
Bible to Acts Chapter 7 you'll
find a vision that helped a
man know that it would be
worth it all, when he went
home to be with the Lord.

The Bible tells us this man's name
was Stephen / a man whose
greatest desire in life was to
be a servant of his Lord.

He was accused of blasphemy
by the "Religious" leaders of
his day. And "Blasphemy"
means: "Speaking evil against God"

Like most of the charges made against
the apostles "This charge was a lie" / made
up by Selfish, / Greedy / Arrogant /
Individuals, more interested in getting
their wants ~~that~~ / rather than
their needs met —


Stephen did NOT lash back at these
people as many do today — but rather
he recalled for their consideration
all God had done in the past
to help His people — And God had
done much for them, even as He has ^{done}

And when He called them stiff-

Necked Resisters of the Holy
Ghost (which is what they were)

Verse 54 says, They went mad:

"When they heard these things
they were cut to the heart and
they gnashed on him with their
teeth — That means, "The truth

made them so mad they
began to grind their teeth
in anger. 

2/ They were ready to tear his flesh off with their teeth // (It means they went out of their mind when they heard the truth about themselves.)

Let me tell you, Some people hate the truth // "They hate to admit they are wrong" // It happens today.

Well what did Stephen do? "Stare back" (No) That's not Christian //

Did he try to hurt them as they were hunting him? (No) That's not Christian either. — You see Stephen was ^{more} concerned about their needs, ~~not~~ his wants //

No, Verse 55 says, "He turned his face toward Heaven" And saw the glory of God. And Jesus standing on the right hand of God." (He had a vision of Heaven)

He saw God / & He saw Jesus And
it must have encouraged Him no
end

Then Stephen told his
accusers what he had seen And
it only made them more angry -

And refusing to listen, they stoned
our first God loving / God fearing
man with renewed vengeance (people
still do it today)

Oh but let me tell you, Stephen had
had a vision / He knew it would
be worth all he was enduring,
because when it was all over,
he would be with Jesus - He
had seen into Heaven // He knew
how beautiful Heaven was = / He
knew it would be worth it all

The vision Stephen had prepared him
for death // for you see, verses
59 & 60 tell us just how
prepared he was, listen:

4/ "As they stoned Stephen, he
continued to call on God // He
called on Jesus // Asking that
his spirit be received of them."

"And he kneeled down, and cried
out with a loud voice, "Oh Lord,
lay not this sin to their charge"
And when he had thus spoken
he fell asleep" (He died worshipping
the Lord //)

Oh but history "His vision" helped
prepare him for death // It helped
him pray for the needs of
others, rather than for his
wants — And folks, that's what
you & I must do if we please God

I believe with all my heart that
we need to ask God to do the same
for us as he did for Stephen.

① We need to lay our personal
wants aside and get a Godly
concern for the needs around
us — (And there are many) !!!

I believe those 7 people who went
out in Jesus' name Tuesday had a vision

They saw Needs Out there that must
be met - And they laid their works
aside, Desiring to meet the needs
of others - (~~We~~ ^{and each of us} had opportunity To Go)

I Believe those 3 Women who met
here Thursday Morning in An effort
to Get the W.M.U. Going Again
Had a Vision - // Everyone of them
had other things to do - // But
they recognized a need, and
Came together to try and meet
it. // (And they were led to a place
where the need was great & met it) //

^{Also} I Believe those men who went to
the Royal Ambassador training
meeting early Saturday Morning had
a vision // They saw young boys/
and young men in need of mission
training // And they gave very
precious time to Go and prepare
themselves so they could meet
the need - // They had a vision //
Do you? // Are you concerned with
wants or needs?

57
Oh but let me tell you there were
other visions recorded in God's word

God let Joseph see the needs that
would manifest themselves during
a 7 year drought (And they were met)

God let Jacob see victory as a
vision - I believe God still lets
people in or the future in dreams
& visions - The prophet's spoke of it,
And so did Peter at Pentecost -

Oh but there is another vision a man
had that was very beneficial to
him - You'll find it recorded in Isaiah
Chapter 6

Here God's glory was shown ^{to} the
prophet Isaiah // It was a very
humbling experience - // For fact
it brought him down to his
knees // It was a vision each
of us need to have - //

As Isaiah saw the glory of God
in this vision // ^{As He} saw His Majesty
^{As He} saw His Majesty / at humbled Him —

For you see,
Not only did he see God, but he
also saw himself as he really was //

Listen to Isaiah chapter 6 verse
5 - Isaiah 6:5 - "Then said I /
Woe is me / for I am unclean /
because I am a man of unclean
lips, and I dwell in the midst
of a people with unclean lips" ^{He said}
"I saw this, because I saw God"

And Dear People, "We need a vision
like that of Isaiah"

We need to get our eyes
off our wants - and let
God show us our needs //

When this work first began in Jan.
1985 is started from a vision /
a need / and God has blessed
it up to now. // And if we
keep a vision of needs, we'll continue to bless //

6/ I Believe He did so Because
up to Now we have been looking
at Needs, Not Wants // And So
we must continue to do that —
If we want God to continue
to Bless —

Some/ or better I have Wants // But
let me tell you, "It's Needs that
we look at" // Needs of this Body/
Needs of those outside the Church //

Need for better ministering to
this Area as a Church — //

Dear hearts, "A Vision is A must"
The writer of Proverbs Chapt. 29
Verse 18 says this: "When there
is no vision, the people perish"

What is your Vision all about, "Wants
or Needs" // God's Will / or your Way —
(We all need a Vision)
Would you bow your head &
close your eyes —

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Last People must first a vision of
their last condition before they can
be saved. They must see hell on
a good place. They must see heaven
as the only way of escape.

They must confess their sins to
him - Ask for forgiveness & Ask
to be saved, after believing on Jesus
(Heaven will be worth it all)

Are you here lost? You need to be saved
And you can be saved today - Come
let me tell you how when we finish.

Dear loved ones, let me ask, "What
kind of a vision do you have? What
kind of vision do you need?" Ask God

are you just seeing wants? Rather
than needs? If so you need to
pray for a vision like Israel had
you need to admit some things
to God - you need to dedicate
your life - you need to admit
some things to God you would
never admit to anyone else - Will you
come

7/ Are you looking for a church
Home - Let me tell you, This
Work / This Building / Come About
Because a People had a vision -
They laid aside wants, to meet
needs - We welcome you to come
unite with us ^{you see} many still have
a vision here - Come help us see
it fulfilled

~~Let's pray~~
Bro. Howard had a vision and
the Law himself lost - He also
saw from on the answer
and God saved him.

What about your vision - Can
you see your need -

Let's pray