

Several years ago, I had such an intense experience with God that I hesitated sharing it publicly. I didn't think I could do it justice by trying to explain it to others. I still don't know if I can, but I believe the Lord has indicated that now is the time to share it. So, I'm giving it my best effort. I trust I've heard Him accurately and hope my words capture what I saw and sensed. I pray the retelling of this experience penetrates your soul as it did mine when it first occurred.

Spring Summoning

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**"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun,
who rides the heavens to help you,
and in His excellency on the clouds.
The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms;
He will thrust out the enemy from before you, and will say,
'Destroy!'"**
Deuteronomy 33:26-27

One of the things I greatly enjoyed about Texas was its **big sky**. Sure, it's the same **sky** God made that exists elsewhere, but the combination of flat land and short trees made the **sky** in Texas appear so much more **grandiose**. Since I absolutely love clouds, the unpredictable weather and vast **sky** in the lone star state produced some **stunning** views for me while we lived there.

One May evening in 2011, the sunseting-Texas-Sky was one of those **awe-inspiring** ones, so Robin and I stepped outside to admire **God's handiwork**. The picture above is from that evening.

We looked up, amazed, viewing the panoramic **beauty** that engulfed the entire **sky** above and all around us. The cloudy textures and depths were **indescribable**; the orangey, fire-filled firmament cried out the **glory** of God!

At some point in the midst of my admiration, the **glory** of the Lord indeed broke forth. Yes, His **glory** shot from the mouths of the clouds into the depths of my soul, *and I beheld a vision of the Lord's face in the midst of the sky.*

Underneath His face,
His hands reached out from the cloudy patterns.
He leaned down toward me,
reaching out, **beckoning me**.

His countenance was so inviting, so pleasant.
He was **joyful**, even **exuberant**. Almost **giddy**.

As if He were happy to see me.

And talk with me. And be with me.

All of this was within a split-second, but the impact on my soul was beyond what words could express.

I could barely catch my breath, it was so real.

Meanwhile, within that same split-second, coupled with this vision, a message filled my heart and mind. I did not hear an audible voice; rather, it was a sense or feeling or experience without words, from the Spirit of God directly to my inner being. Here is the essence of what Jesus spoke:

*Leanna! You have NO idea what I have in store
for you up here. It's amazing!*

*Whatever you get anxious about
completely fades in light of eternity.*

*Nothing is worth worrying about,
because I have everything taken care of!*

It was an invitation to

'dare' to giggle at the enormity of our issues here,

keeping them in their rightful place

in light of the glory of God.

His expression alone-- **the undefiled joy coupled with both childlikeness and holiness**-- made any fear, worry, doubt, or stress seem like utter silliness, *like folly*, melting it all into nothingness.

Then it all went away. There I stood, speechless, staring at the **blazing** scene surrounding me, wanting desperately to remember every millisecond of this **divine summoning**.

I'd like to say I haven't gotten caught up in the cares of this world again since this **glorious** vision, but I confess instead that I have. My spirit is willing, but my flesh, as with that of all mankind, is so very weak. I can say, though, that this experience has empowered me to walk with a greater eternal perspective.

*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time
are not worthy to be compared with the glory
which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18*

We must not even compare our present sufferings with His glory that will be revealed in us-- they are not worthy to be compared!

Challenge:

This was a **summoning**, a clear **bidding** to keep an eternal perspective and *not get hung up on things of the earth.*

Will you dare to live that way with me?

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