

## To Touch the FACE of GOD

Of the five senses you were born with, touch, taste, smell, hearing, and sight; which would you consider the most important to you? Which could you live without? How many of them would you need to live your life?

Each attribute allows you to explore the world you live in. Together these five senses are designed to build one upon the other to make you complete and give you a full sensory experience of the world around you.

Through taste, I can enjoy a meal or a cool cup of water in the heat of the day. Through smell I can enjoy a flower or the scent of the wife I love. Through hearing I can enjoy the sounds of nature and the voices of family and friends, and through sight I can enjoy the beauty of the world around me that ONLY God could have created.

If I had to choose only one of the five senses to live my life through, it would be touch.

For it is through touch that I can feel love. It is the greatest sense shared between two people. From a newborn baby's need to be held by its mother. From the need of two people to embrace each other through marriage. To an old man being held by his loving wife as his life comes to an end. From our beginning to our ending it is touch that communicates love and lets us know we are not alone in this world and gives us peace.

Have you ever thought about the fact that God, who is Love, choose to come down to visit with us for a while and clothed Himself in flesh with a body like ours? Why would God do that?

The God of creation and the Universe, the only TRUE and Holy God became a man so we could touch Him for awhile. Yes He came down to communicate to us through His words. But, I believe even more important than that He came down so He could touch us and we could touch Him.

Two thousand years ago, there was a special generation alive on the earth that walked in the cool of the day with their God, as Adam did in the Garden. This special generation lived by sight, smell, hearing and taste and had the ability to TOUCH God.

God became "Immanuel" which means God With Us. This special generation experienced God with All their senses; but they recognized HIM NOT because they knew NOT the time of HIS COMING.

Today we live by faith alone. Faith is a special sense that God gives only to those who believe in His Son Yeshua / Jesus who came down to us with Salvation in His Hands. Those of us who believe in Him shall on one future day walk by sight, forever with Him in heaven.

Jesus while here on earth became the God / Man. But Jesus looked no different than anyone else; you could not have picked Him out of the crowd of the nation of people He was born into. There was nothing physically unusual about Him. There were only two ways of telling He was God. The first were the Words that came from His mouth and the second was the Touch of His hands.

Both His Words and His Touch performed many miracles. The miracles were designed to prove that He is God Incarnate, (God in Flesh). But there is a greater meaning behind His Words and Touch than the miracles He performed to prove to us who He is. Everything He did, He did because He loves us. He IS Love. It is because of that Love for us that He came to us.

To Jesus His coming is ALL about a Family Reunion. Every Word spoken and every Touch felt was meant to prove His love for His family...that's you and I.

Would you or I have compassion to touch to hold or to cry with a leper?  
**Jesus did.**

A leper can see, taste, smell, and hear. He has all the senses to enjoy life but one. A leper cannot touch, for he has no feeling in his hands or in his body. A leper can be old or young depending when the disease came upon them. A leper is an outcast rejected and avoided by society. A leper has no mother, no father, no family, no friends, no children and no love...he has been abandoned by all.

Their death sentence imposed by society is not to die, but to live until they die; devoid of human contact without love and alone. They are locked inside their decaying body, alone and feared by all. They had been given Non-Human Status at the time of Jesus first coming.

A leper cannot feel the pedal of a flower, the coolness of a cup of water nor the gentle breeze that caresses our skin...or the touch of mother, father, child, brother, sister or friend. Can anyone be more alone in this world than a leper? Can there be anyone more in need of a gentle touch expressing love than a leper? Is there anyone more in need of Reunion with their family than a leper? I cannot think of anyone.

There were many lepers healed by Jesus.

In **Mark 1 vs. 40 - 41** it says:

“Then a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him (prostrate on His face) and saying (begging-pleading) to Him, If You are willing, You can make me clean. And Jesus, **moved with compassion**, put out His hand and touched him and said to him “I am willing, be cleansed.”

This leper could not contain his joy and ran throughout the village proclaiming His encounter with God and I am sure on that day there was a reunion with mother, father, wife, children, friends, neighbors, brothers and sisters like no other before. All because the outstretched hand of love was accepted by the one who had become devoid of love.

Yet there is another side to think about.

In **Luke 17 vs. 11 – 19** Jesus meets 10 lepers. “Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that ...He entered a certain village, there, met Him, 10 men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” In this encounter Jesus healed them with words of love not his touch.

Scripture says the 10 were all healed together by Jesus, then turned away from HIM and left. Only one turned around and with a loud voice glorified God, ran to Jesus and fell down at Jesus feet and thanked HIM.

As always there is only a remnant (few) with true faith. The Words of Christ call to us with healing, many listen but few turn and fall in the dust before his Cross and accept the touch of his nail pierced hands. The difference is that hearing may give you physical healing for this world only but in the end it means hell. But if you turn, believe and let him touch you then you will receive spiritual healing from sin and you will inherit Heaven and be part of His family reunion.

The Word of God throughout both the Old and New Testaments speaks clearly about humanity when it says only a Remnant (a few), will be saved throughout history. This is the fact that breaks the heart of God for it is Gods greatest **wish/desire** that all would receive Salvation.

God provides His children faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. You and I have never been loved like this before.

## ***High Flight***

Written by Pilot Officer Gillespie Magee No 412 squadron, RCAF  
Killed December 11,1941

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hovering there  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue,  
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew -  
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high un-trespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand and **touched the face of God.**

The words of that poem have touched the hearts of multiple generations since it was written. It reflects the ultimate yearning and desire of man to reach out and touch his Creator.

Today we live by faith as described by the song lyrics of Michael Card:

"To hear with my heart, To see with my soul, To be guided by a hand I cannot hold, To trust in a way I cannot see, That's what faith must be."

Yet for a while, Two thousand years ago your Creator took the form of a babe, born in Bethlehem to a woman named Miriam. She was the first person of countless Billions yet to come who will be able to Touch the face of God.

God through the writer of **Colossians 1:15** said that, "He (Jesus), is the image of the invisible God."

"Without Jesus we would never have seen God.  
But through Him, God is brought within touching distance." (Don Magee, Pastor).

With my Faith in the Word of God and Yeshua /Jesus, the Messiah of Israel, I now see clearly what was unseen for I have placed my eternal life in the hands of my Messiah. And along with the Apostle Thomas I too say "My Lord and My God". **John 20:28**

*Helen Keller who was blind, and deaf lived her entire life through touch. Through touch she found the True God. And God by touching her heart brought her into His Kingdom of Light when she died.*

*Helen Keller now walks by sight.*

There is a famine in the land and it's not a famine of food but of those who SEEK to put out their hand and touch the face of God.

And because of that **"Jesus Wept" ....**

**John 11: 35-36**

*In HIM I found me.*

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