



# LifeSpot ... Vision for God

## Seeing the farthest

How far can you see? Five kilometres? Twenty? How about 140 million kilometres? Or 100 million light years? It depends, doesn't it? On things like fog, haze, forests, hills, curves, light, dark, the quality of your eyes, and the availability of a microscope or binoculars. It depends on where you're looking—to the horizon, into a cave, into a life form, or up to the heavens. Some people seem to go through life in myopic fog. Others, in transforming vision. It's important, because the farther we see, the farther we go. "We see Jesus." Hebrews 2:9 (NIV). That's the farthest of all vision. But it's also the closest, because the Son of God became a man, and he walks alongside us even in the fog.

## Opened eyes

In a city called Dothan, Elisha's servant got up early to look, and he didn't like what he saw. An army with horses and chariots surrounded Dothan, ready to destroy Elisha. "Oh, my lord, what shall we do?" the servant cried. Now there's a sentiment we can identify with. But Elisha was strangely serene. *Don't worry*, he said. Which didn't help one bit. Then Elisha prayed—not for himself, but for his servant. "O Lord, open his eyes so that he may see." The servant's eyes had been open to human reality. But now they were opened to spiritual reality—a massive army of God's horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha! Make this your prayer today—"Lord, open my eyes, that I may see."

## See as God sees

When you look out on your world, what do you see? A hopeless situation, perhaps. Crime, calamities, war. Love grown cold. Hearts failing for fear. People intoxicated by materialism, consumed by lust. Few who seek God. Hardly anyone who longs for God's truth and his kingdom. Only a handful interested in peace, humility, integrity or purity. This is what we see. But what does God see? Jesus gave this answer: "The harvest is plentiful. . . . Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." Luke 10:2; John 4:35 (NIV). This is a shock, isn't it? Where we see a harvest of evil, God sees a harvest for his kingdom. Will you open your eyes, and see what God sees?

## See by the Spirit

Abraham looked out on nothing but tents, and saw the City of God. Moses looked out on a horde of ignorant slaves, and saw the invisible God. Stephen looked into the furious faces of church leaders as they hurled rocks at his dying body—and saw Jesus at the right hand of God. We look at the harsh reality of our lives. But eyes of faith can see the spiritual reality—the suffering God behind all things, over all things, in all things. This is a miracle. It doesn't come from our spirit, even with the best psychotherapy in the world. As in the case of Stephen, this miracle comes when we are "full of the Holy Spirit." Acts 7:55 (NIV). According to God, you may ask for and receive this miracle, and see in a way you've never seen before.