

# THE scent of water

A COMPILATION OF MOMENTS

WITH GOD

Lynn Busby

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from

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by Lynn Busby

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*Job 14 7-8 “At least there is hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. Its roots may grow old in the ground, and its stump dies in the soil, yet it will bud and put forth shoots like a plant at the scent of water.”*

### **Petrichor:**

Rain itself has no scent. But moments before a rain event, an “earthy” scent known as petrichor permeates the air. People call it musky, fresh – pleasant.

This marvelous fragrance comes from the moistening of the ground.

# Chapter 3

## As it is in Heaven

Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6: 9-10)

*A*s I worship this morning, I sing, "As it is in Heaven, so it is in me." It feels so personal.

I go into an encounter and revelation of the light of God's glory as it is in Heaven. I can find no darkness in Heaven. None. Nothing can touch me there—no demonic influence of condemnation or depression. No arthritis, no pain in my body. Absolutely nothing negative exists there. It isn't easy to articulate such a revelation as the one of glory. It starts with a lightness and an incredible sense of well-being! A bright light blinds me, and in my mouth I sense a slightly sweet taste. I feel a weight landing on me that grows heavier and becomes overwhelming. The weight and imposing Presence of God glue me to my chair. And I begin quivering.

I have a vision of myself prostrate on the floor before His throne.

No flesh can stand in His Presence.

No darkness can be found in His Presence.

No arthritis, back pain, headache, stress, fear, condemnation, insecurity.

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The love of God is so pervasive nothing else exists. I am swallowed up in love and light. I am being held by a power that will never let me go, and I will be here with Him forever.

I am not sure how long I stay there. Time disappears in Heaven.

Eventually, I “come to” a sense of myself again. I am still sitting where I began worshipping, but I feel as though I have been away. I remain in the chair, feeling a need to recuperate from something. I am spent. I slowly take inventory of my body, moving each part, connecting with them again.

Then the Holy Spirit reminds me of Romans 8:32: “For God has proved his love, giving us his greatest treasure, the gift of his Son. And since God freely offered him up as the sacrifice for us all, he certainly will not withhold from us anything else he has to give. Nothing in the universe can separate us from God’s love. I am convinced that his love will triumph over death, life’s troubles, fallen angels, or dark rulers in the heavens.”

There it is in Scripture—the prophetic word made sure by the written Word. When present with the Lord, nothing comes between. Nothing should be able to separate me from this experience of God’s Kingdom. Jesus prayed, “On earth as it is in Heaven.” He includes you and me in that too.

He decrees in YOU as it is in Heaven.

Then the Lord whispers to me the word “Deposed.” I know the word means overthrown, but I go to look it up anyway. I know the Lord wants to show me something or explain something when I hear just one word like that.

When we hear something from the Lord, we should always take it seriously!

*Proverbs 25:2: It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a thing. We must stir the hunger. To he who has more shall be given. But he who has not even what he has will be taken from him. We must steward the mysteries of God. That means treating them seriously and doing all we can to understand, interpret, and apply what God tells us.*

*The hungrier we are, the more we shall be filled.*

So, I excitedly go to my laptop and read about the word depose.

Depose: overthrow, unseat, dethrone, topple, remove, supplant, displace, dismiss, oust, throw out, drum out, expel, eject; and my favorite: show someone the door!

Read these synonyms for depose again, but after each word, fill in the blank and insert the thing you struggle with. What makes you feel separated from God?

Remember that this has been done to fallen angels and dark rulers in the heavens. Fill in the blank with whatever dark power tries to influence or subdue you.

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Remind it that it has been deposed and put it under your feet.

Your Kingdom come; your will be done as it is in Heaven!

Where His Kingdom is, darkness is deposed!

And the Kingdom of God is in you.

# Chapter 5

# Grace Upon Grace

“Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”  
(Acts 20:32)

“He will bring the capstone into place with shouts of ‘Grace! Grace to it!’”  
(Zechariah 4:7)

**I**hear the Lord whisper, “Grace upon grace.”  
*John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and  
grace upon grace.*

What does it mean to receive grace upon grace? Philo, a contemporary of the writer of the fourth gospel, in the first century AD wrote in *On the Posterity of Cain and His Exile*:

After the first graces ( $\tauὰς πρώτας χάριτας$ ), God bestows:

other graces in place of those graces ( $\acute{ε}τέρας ἀντ’ ἐκείνων$ )

third graces in place of the second graces ( $τρίτας ἀντὶ τῶν δευτέρων$ )

always new graces in place of the older graces ( $αἰεὶ νέας ἀντὶ πάλαιοτέρων$ )

yet sometimes different graces ( $τοτὲ μὲν διαφερούσας$ )

but other times the same graces anew ( $τοτὲ δ’ αὖ καὶ τὰς αὐτὰς$ )

or, on the one hand, the creature never lacks the benefit of God’s graces since he would be utterly destroyed, yet he cannot bear an excellent and plentiful rush of them. Because God desires their use to benefit us, He measures the graces given in

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proportion to the strength of those Who receive it. What does it mean to receive grace upon grace? For we have received of His fullness and grace upon grace. We receive grace after grace until the fullness of Him that we have received is realized in us as mature sons and daughters.

A picture comes to me. I see a stairway of stones in the middle of a gently flowing river going up into the sky. Somehow, I know every stone is grace. Each step could only be taken by faith.

Each step brings greater revelation of the immensity of God's grace. With each upward step there is an ability to walk in a more significant measure of gifting and calling.

Every stone ascended grants more remarkable courage to take another step. The understanding opens, blossoms in my awareness that the more we climb this stairway, the more grace we have, the more faith we have, the more faith we have, the more grace we and so on. Continuing upwards to the high call of God on our lives, we grow in faith to receive more grace, and then we have more grace to walk by faith. What does it mean to receive grace upon grace?

2 Peter 3:18 tells us to “grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ our Lord and Saviour. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.” The more we grow in the knowledge of our Lord (obedience) and Saviour (grace), the more we are whole and fulfilled.

## Grace Upon Grace

This is what it means to receive grace upon grace.

These are simple thoughts on foundational principles, but sometimes we forget them.

We try to climb in our own strength.

# Chapter 6

# Lens Matters

“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6: 22-23)

*When people start seeing visions, having dreams, and hearing God's voice, they want to tell everyone everything they hear. This is a natural response, because it is so exhilarating!*

It was the same for me.

My pastor was kind and gracious, adopting a patient look when I would tell him the latest revelation I had received.

Others were not as compassionate.

I did not understand! Why was it not exciting to them, as well! But I kept pressing in to receive from the Lord. I matured, I heard more, and I learned more. In fact, the rejection I experienced worked in my favour. I turned to God when I was hurt and discouraged.

I entered the school of the prophets. Haha! Those of you in this school know why I insert a chuckle. There is nothing like being schooled by the Lord. His discipline reaches depths that mere words do not. He has a way of saying things that expose our hearts. I learned to be careful about complaining to the Lord!

Once, I asked the Lord why the people were not receiving a particular word.

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UH-oh. I could sense a correction coming from Him.

“Did YOU receive it?” was the response.

That stillness that was at the same time disquieting surrounded me. “I am listening, Lord.”

He went on, showing me how I was a blabber. Someone who “overshares thoughtlessly” That I did not take in words for myself first, allowing them to have a corrective work over my soul. He reminded me that He told His prophet to EAT the scrolls He gave them. His words of correction are sweet. But they have an edge to them. Sharper than a two-edged sword dividing between soul and spirit. It slices me open in a very clean way. Swiftly exposing heart motives without leaving shame in it’s wake only clean conviction.

What we initially receive as prophetic people is meant to cleanse our hearts and clear the logs out of our own eyes before trying to help someone else. It must have its way in us, changing us first! That is biblical! See Matthew 7:3-5.

Prophetic gifting is often described as the eye of the body and sometimes I see it symbolized in my dreams by glasses and cameras. Night vision glasses are an excellent metaphor for the prophetic. Using this gift, we can see our enemies: where they are, and what they are up to.

Have you heard of rose-colored glasses?

Whatever your outlook on life, your lens will affect how you view circumstances and events. It will also affect how you see things in the Spirit and influence how you speak the word of the Lord. A naive, always cheerful, rose-colored perspective will add a soft hue to your revelations, giving a sleepy, dream-like quality to your words, producing little power to change.

There are also dark shades of lenses. This is when you have a negative outlook on life. All your prophetic words will carry a tone of frustration, and even if they are correct, they do not help anyone! They do not give people hope. There is no empowerment for change here, either.

The prophetic person spends a lot of time with God, just getting cleaned up and washed by the water of the Word. So, when you see something, spend time with God asking Him about it. Listen to Him as the only one in the room, seeking to understand what it means for you. YIELD to its corrective quality in your own life.

Look to understand what you hear as if He were speaking only to you. He doesn't have an audience in mind for you. He is speaking to *you*. Receive His counsel as a personal prophetic word, even if you think it is for the church, the pastor, or your neighbour. Hear and pray through it as if another person gave you that word. What does it sound like? Do you feel shame or conviction? Do you feel love and a de-

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sire to love God? Does it sound like what you hear in Scripture?

Eat the scroll. Digest it for yourself. Know what I mean?

# Chapter 7

## Giants in the Land

...casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ  
(2 Corinthians 10:5)

**D**o you sometimes hear yourself saying things you had no knowledge of? Perhaps you suddenly glimpse information about a future event; you have no natural reason for such knowledge, yet you suddenly find yourself speaking with authority before you have even had time to process your thoughts.

Sometimes, prophetic utterances come from His Spirit through your spirit, bypassing your mind. You might have to “chew on” what you get for a period. This often happens to me in prayer.

“Lord, let me be Your Normandy.” I hear myself say it and know it is God, but I don’t understand what the prayer is saying or asking.

For three days, I pray and research Normandy. It is a process, sometimes, to understand what the Spirit is saying. The Holy Spirit is God. Isaiah 11 says He is the Spirit of the LORD, of Wisdom, of Understanding, of Knowledge, of Counsel, of Might, and of the Fear of the Lord. Our spirit might receive one or two of those seven dimensions. Even then, it takes a while for our brains to catch up.

Step by step, He leads me through a download of the meaning of what I will call the Normandy intercession. I cry out for a place within me for the Spirit to have a beachhead, a place to land to invade and

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continuously occupy in my life. I surrender my will, just like those who gave their lives in World War II, and I will be the sacrifice to enable the liberation of others. I allow the Holy Spirit to set up His home base within me. We are only as filled by the Spirit as we allow. Giving up control to Him allows Him to move. The level of power in our lives is equivalent to the level of surrender. To understand the ways of the Lord, we can look to the experience of the Israelites. He still puts us into a wilderness like He did His people back then so we can learn to trust Him no matter our circumstances. It is there we can learn how to conquer the giants.

In the new covenant, you are the land, and fear and unbelief are the giants we are most commonly up against. The wilderness is your setup to discover whether you trust God. Trusting God is always the lesson. The test is always regarding peace: Will I lose it because of what is taking place in my life?

The devil does not know what to do with a person at peace.

Israel had to cross over the Jordan to enter the promised land. The Jordan represents dying to self. The ultimate giant they had to overcome was, and ours still is, fear. It was not only the size of the giants that the Israelites had to conquer. It was their perceptions of themselves as grasshoppers that had to die. Most of us think spiritual warfare happens in the atmosphere around us. I contend that it occurs

in the land within us! The land, the battleground, is between our ears and in our hearts!

This fight is a job only we can do! We must make use of our will. Again, stronger is he who rules his spirit than he who wins a city. (Proverbs 16:32) Why? Because the first is more complicated. Once you manage the former, you can do the latter. The expression, 'he is his own worst enemy' is often true.

This fact causes us to know we need an intercessor to fill the gap.

This is why the Lord put it in my heart to become a Normandy. It is the place of great sacrifice where things start to turn around. To win the fight against the armies around us, we must win the battle against the giants within us. God wants to establish a Normandy, a beachhead, in us first. He must win us over, conquer us. Then, we, like David, can challenge the giant for daring to defy the God of Israel. We must question everything in us that would withstand our trust in Him. This is what it means to be a Christian: to be a warrior in my own land, the land within me. With one glance of His eyes, He has undone me, and I want with all my heart to be His alone. What are the giants in your life?

What tells you that you cannot trust God?

Kill it.

# Chapter 20

# Stay

You will show me the path of life;  
In your presence is fullness of joy ;  
at your right hand are pleasures for evermore  
(Psalm 16: 11)

“**S**tay with me.”

There are so many love songs with this pining sentiment expressed.

We are created in God’s image, and He loves us like that. I want you to hear it.

Hear His desire for you: “Stay with me.”

The book of Ruth is a well-known story in the Bible. The title character, newly widowed after her father-in-law and husband have died, speaks a famous line to her mother-in-law, Naomi.

*“Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you, for where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.” Ruth 1:16.*

Let me weave that with another story of a similar theme: a man tells his older mentor that he will not let him out of sight. In the story of Elijah and Elisha, Elijah seems to WANT to dismiss his pupil for him to go away.

*Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here. please, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.”*

2 Kings 2:2

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Three times, Elijah tests Elisha, and each time, just as Ruth did, Elisha responds that he will NOT leave Elijah's side. I use the word "test" because that is what it was.

Elisha had to be willing to go further in his journey of "staying" to receive his "mantle."

This brings another story to my mind. In John 6 Jesus fed the multitude with two loaves and five fish that were given to Him. He perceived that many wanted to make him king because of this miraculous sign so He departed. He later went on to explain that they should follow Him not just so they could have their physical needs looked after. That He was the true bread from heaven, they must also eat the flesh and drink the blood if they wanted to have true life. This was a difficult thing to accept and many were offended and stopped following Him.

Jesus turns to His disciples and says, "Will you leave also?" I can almost see His piercing gaze and almost hear his tender heart question, "will you stay with me?"

Simon Peter gives that famous reply in verse 68:

*Simon Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life."*

I believe each of these stories is a picture of the kind of relationship God desires to have with us.

He seeks those who refuses to go away or be sent out, to walk away, or to be offended. Those who see

## Stay

and know the power of life that rests within our relationship with Him.

A vast number of love songs express the desire of the human heart to find a loved one.

Someone who wants to STAY.

STAY with me. Be devoted only to me.

We were created in the Lord's image. Hear His desire for you.

*Matthew 26:38-40 Then He said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; STAY here and keep watch with Me.” And He went a little beyond them, fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.” And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, “So, you men could not STAY and watch with Me for one hour?”*

Know this. Your hunger for a relationship is not because you desire a romantic partner.

You have this hunger because God made you to be like HIM.

HE wants a relationship with YOU. Open your heart!

# Chapter 29

## Singing Servant

In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak. The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”  
(Zephaniah 3:16-17)

*In my dream, it is someone's birthday, and my neighbor has removed his fence so we can have the whole yard for a party. I am excited and trying to wake my daughter up so she can attend the party. She is young and cranky and does not want to leave her bed. Few people are there, so the neighbors invite us into their house. Others follow, and the party now takes over the whole home. It is jubilant, rowdy even. At one point, we decide to make a video of one of the guests. She is an older woman dressed in white and pearls. It seems like she is a bride, but she is wearing a nightgown instead of a bridal gown. She stands in front of a mirror and leans forward to cover her face and neck in fine white powder.*

She starts singing in another language, strong-voiced and powerful. Someone hands her a baby to sing over. Somehow, I know the baby does not have a name. Time seems to stand still as she sings. All eyes are on the old woman and the child.

Eventually, the party ends.

The guests leave, and everyone who lives in the house goes to bed. I feel like an interloper, but I stay as if waiting for something. Eventually, I hear a man moving around upstairs, and after a moment he

comes down, preparing to leave for work. I quickly make myself busy cleaning up the place, picking up dirty glasses, and singing the tune the older woman in white had sung.

It is now daylight; I feel a little awkward being there; almost as if I had been caught spying. So I continue to busy myself cleaning.

I feel like I am still in the dream when I wake up. All I can see in my mind is the older woman. I feel like I know her and even feel the essence of her character; her presence is with me!

For three days, all I can do is pray in tongues. The second night, I woke up saying, “It would be foolish to give the baby a name now.”

I ask the Lord the identity of older woman in the dream. Does she represent the Holy Spirit, or is she an angel? Or will I meet her one day?

And He says, “She is you. I am giving you an assignment. I will cause you to be a wise woman” (pearls are equated with wisdom in Scripture) “who watches over and sings over the baby” (the Church) “in the night watches” (nightgown, cleaning up when others are asleep).

I am to sing in a heavenly language over the new life of the Church that does not yet have a name. I am to sing a new song over her in tongues. I am to be an unassuming, singing servant in the night watches.

## Singing Servant

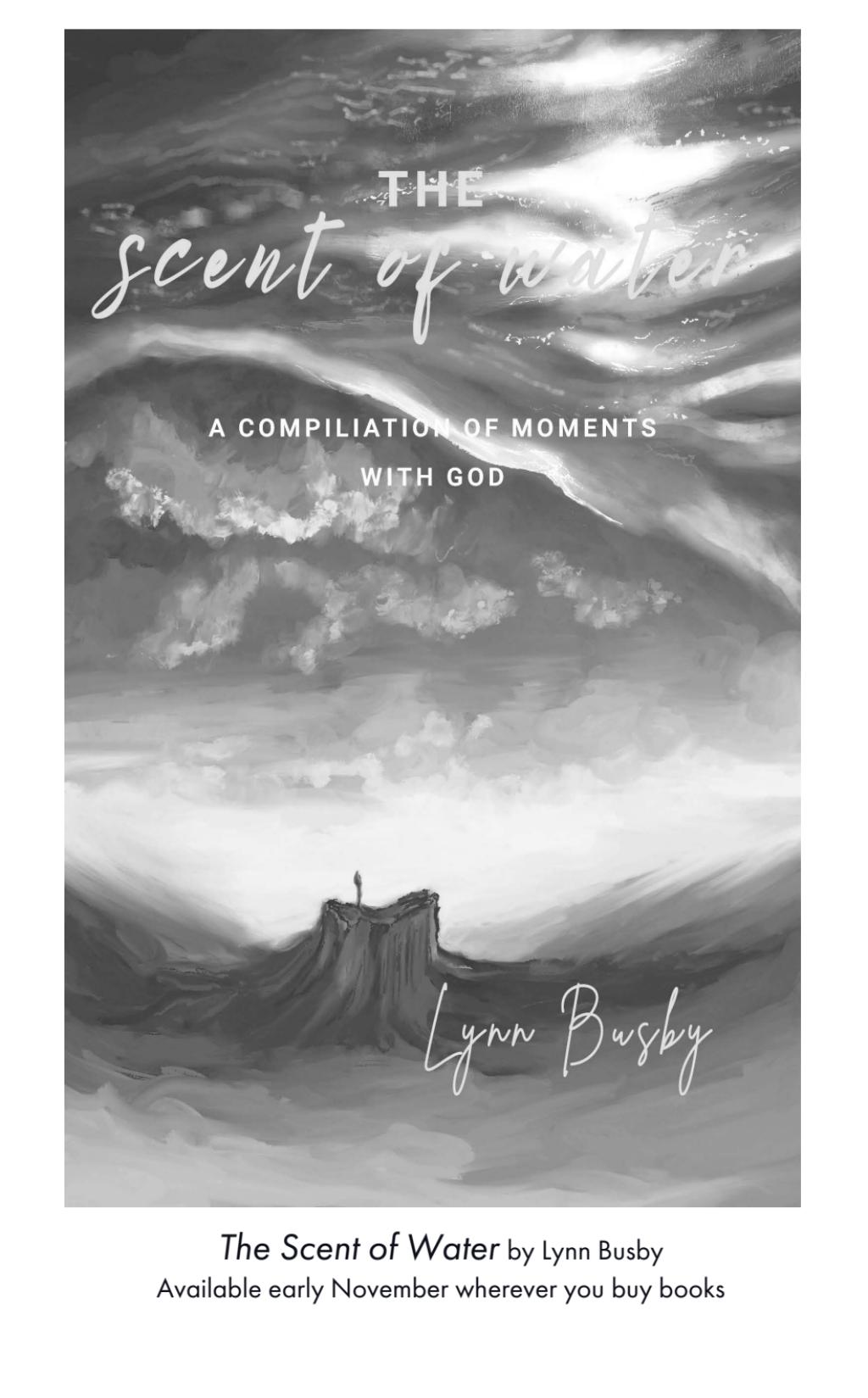
*Psalm 119:147-148 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words. My eyes anticipate the night watches, So that I may meditate on Your word.*

Know this, dear reader, that it does not matter whether anyone knows what you are doing in the Lord's name.

Just do it!

*The following page displays artwork inspired by this chapter, painted by cover artist Keisha Brown.*





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