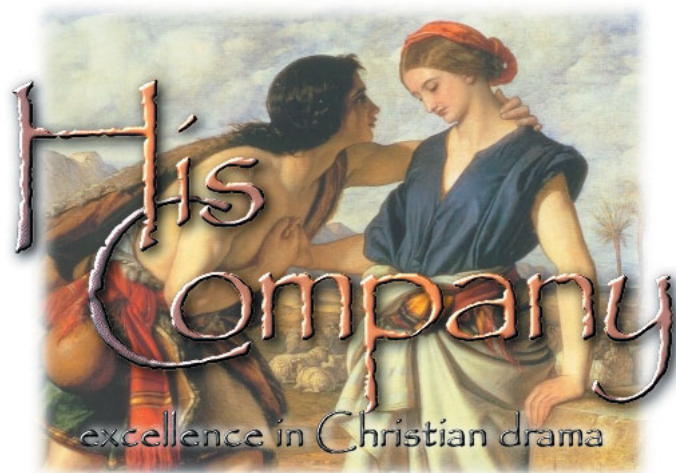


# VISION BEYOND THE EYES

FROM *THE TWELVE*

by  
David S. Lampel



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**AUTHOR'S NOTE**

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5

Jesus said, "Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed." On the road out of Jerusalem, Nathanael meets a pilgrim seeking Jesus. She doesn't know Jesus has already returned to the Father. What she also doesn't know is that the gift she seeks is already within her: Faith without seeing.

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**CHARACTERS**

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Nathanael, a disciple of Christ  
Blind woman

10

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**PROPS**

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Walking stick and water bag for Nathanael  
"Blind stick" for woman

15

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**SCENE**

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*The Time: Just after Pentecost*  
*The Place: Somewhere between Beersheba and Jerusalem*

20

*House lights down.*  
*Stage lights up.*

25

*Enter a blind woman. She is weary from travel and rests on a convenient rock. At the same time, the Apostle Nathanael enters from a different direction. As he approaches the woman she speaks.*

**Woman**

Gentlemen from Jerusalem, have you any water for a weary traveler?

**Nathanael**

Of course.

30

*(crossing to her)*

The dust of many miles covers your feet.

**Woman**

35                                   *(holding out her hands, but not where the bag is)*  
I've come from Beersheba.

**Nathanael**

*(handing her the water bag)*  
Alone? And—blind? You're blind! How did you know I came from  
40 Jerusalem?

**Woman**

*(matter-of-factly)*  
I see now, with my ears.

*(she takes a quick drink)*

45 Your footsteps came from the direction of my destination.

*(drinking again)*

**Nathanael**

What in Jerusalem has caused you to travel all this way alone? And  
without sight?

**Woman**

50                                   *(handing back the water bag)*  
Tell me, have you news of the Messiah? I had heard He was going to  
Jerusalem.

**Nathanael**

55                                   *(soberly)*  
Yes, He was in Jerusalem.

**Woman**

*(excitedly)*  
Did you see Him? What is He like? What did He do—

**Nathanael**

60 Easy woman! I can answer all your questions.  
  *(pause)*

I was one of His disciples.

65

**Woman**

*(starting to drop to her knees)*

Master!

**Nathanael**

*(stopping her)*

70

Good woman, save your knees for your God. I'm but a lowly servant of our Lord.

*(pause)*

I am Nathanael, from Cana.

**Woman**

75

I've been more than two weeks on the road. I have heard so many stories of His healing—His miracles.

*(pause)*

Kind sir, can you help me reach Him?

**Nathanael**

80

I can. But He is no longer in Jerusalem.

**Woman**

*(troubled)*

Oh, where now? I'll never catch up to Him. He can give me sight! I want to see Him with my own eyes.

85

**Nathanael**

*(testing her faith)*

What makes you think He can give you sight?

**Woman**

Many have told me of His healing. He truly has the gift.

90

**Nathanael**

And from where did He receive this gift, do you suppose?

**Woman**

He is certainly the Messiah, our anointed Savior, sent by God!

95 **Nathanael**  
 More then that. One of the last things He said to us was that He and God  
 were One—the same. Jesus was God.

**Woman**  
 What did you say? “Was”? He— He—

100 **Nathanael**  
 The Romans crucified Him.

**Woman**  
*(overwrought)*  
 No— No—

105 **Nathanael**  
 But He came back to us! After three days in the tomb, He came back to  
 us.

*(with growing excitement)*  
 For forty days He walked with us, spoke with us, gave us comfort—

110 *(turning to her)*  
 He was the one who had suffered the cross, and He gave comfort to us!

**Woman**  
*(not a question)*  
 Th— then He is still— alive. I can still find Him.

115 **Nathanael**  
*(astonished)*  
 Do you believe He rose from the dead?

**Woman**  
*(matter-of-factly)*  
 120 Wouldn't God be capable of such a thing?

**Nathanael**  
*(pleasantly surprised)*  
 Good woman, you have found Him. Your faith has led you to Him.

125 **Woman**  
 But—

**Nathanael**

Our Jesus has returned to the Father. He's no longer walking this earth.

*(she turns away)*

But wait! You have found your Savior.

130

**Woman**

I've found nothing. I'm still blind!

**Nathanael**

You have vision beyond the eyes! You have that most precious possession: Faith without seeing! And because of your faith, He has healed your heart.

135

**Woman**

But I was so hoping—

**Nathanael**

Jesus may still heal your eyes. But what is that sight compared to the vision of your heart to see the Savior?

140

*(Nathanael helps her up)*

You now walk in the light—a light hidden to many with sight.

*(as they exit)*

You are His child; let Him guide your steps.

145

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