**Miskov, Jennifer**
Defining Moments: Rees Howells

# 7. Just the Beginning

The closing chapter of a book on 'heroes of the faith.' Bill Johnson explains why he chose the figures he did, shares his own two defining encounters with God, and urges readers not to envy the past but to pursue their own encounters now. It ends with a personal prayer and a prayer of impartation from Randy Clark.

## Key takeaways

- The heroes were chosen as a representative sample to show that radical encounters with God are still possible—and must happen—today.
- Don't dictate how God should touch you. He uses many means (visions, Scripture, impressions, peace, shaking, tongues); surrender trusts His choice.
- Encounters are glorious but also 'death experiences'—things that need to die in us die, and the cost is real but far outweighed by what God gives.
- There is no shortcut to maturity. One touch long ago isn't enough; pursue ongoing, repeated baptisms of fire.

- Steward the glory you already have—rising in it attracts more. Record past breakthroughs as testimonies to fuel future faith.
- Pray deeply and specifically until you've surrendered your heart; prayers that move us move God.

## Passages worth keeping

> *"Fire always falls on sacrifice. Become that sacrifice."*

The book's core call: encounter comes through surrender.

> *"To the degree that we allow Him to work deep within us, He does the impossible around and through us."*

Links inner surrender to outward power.

## How it connects

The chapter ties personal surrender to corporate revival: just as Israel honored dead prophets while rejecting living ones, Johnson warns against romanticizing the past instead of seeking God now.

## Scripture referenced

- **Isaiah 60:1-3** -- Rising in glory attracts more glory; stewardship from glory to glory
- **Hebrews 6:1-2** -- Laying on of hands as a foundational doctrine
- **Luke 14:27-30** -- Counting the cost of following

- **Ephesians 3:20-21** -- God works beyond what we ask by power within us
- **Psalm 42:7** -- Deep calls to deep—the deep in us calling to the deep in God