

# Contents

<i>Foreword</i>	x
DEREK TIDBALL	
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii
<b>Introduction: The nature and significance of vision</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>The meaning of the term “vision”</i>	2
<i>The complementary relationship between science and theology in understanding vision</i>	3
<i>The significance of vision</i>	4
<i>How is vision different from other related concepts?</i>	6
<i>How can vision enrich Christian life and ministry?</i>	13
<i>The structure and possible uses of this book</i>	14
<b>1 Vision and mental imagery in science</b>	<b>17</b>
<i>What is mental imagery and why is it important?</i>	17
<i>The neurobiological foundation of vision</i>	21
<i>Vision and human mental functioning</i>	23
<i>Sources, modalities and types of vision</i>	24
<i>The competition between the physical and mental senses, and the optimal conditions for experiencing mental imagery</i>	27
<i>Vision and altered states of consciousness</i>	28
<i>Summary</i>	31
<b>2 Applications of vision in the social sciences</b>	<b>36</b>
<i>Vision in psychology</i>	36
<i>Vision and performance in sport</i>	41
<i>Vision and business management</i>	44
<i>Vision and human motivation</i>	47
<i>The promotion of vision</i>	53
<i>Summary</i>	59

viii *Contents*

- 3 Vision in Scripture** 64  
*Various forms of vision in the Bible* 66  
*Prophetic vision* 73  
*“Seeing” and “opening one’s eyes”* 75  
*Vision reports and guided imagery in the Scriptures* 77  
*Summary* 81
- 4 The essence of biblical vision** 85  
*Vision as the channel of divine communication* 85  
*The broadening of the reception of divine communication after Pentecost* 92  
*The motivational purpose of biblical vision* 96  
*Summary* 100
- 5 The vulnerability and authentication of divine vision** 103  
*The vulnerability of vision* 104  
*Authenticating divine vision* 112  
*Illustration: was Eliphaz’s dream in the Book of Job an authentic vision?* 120  
*Summary* 127
- 6 Cultivated vision, Ignatian spirituality and vision-led ministry** 131  
*Cultivated vision and Ignatian spirituality* 131  
*Vision-led Christian leadership and ministry* 146  
*Summary* 160
- 7 Vision in the Christian life I: Discerning God’s call** 165  
*What does vision involve in a contemporary Christian context?* 165  
*What are the main features of an effective Christian vision?* 167  
*What is vision like for the whole church community?* 169  
*How can we generate a Christian vision?* 170  
*How can we be sure that the vision is from God?* 178  
*How long do we need to wait before starting to implement a vision?* 180  
*Summary* 183
- 8 Vision in the Christian life II: Cultivating the perceived vision** 187  
*Vision leaks* 187  
*Gaining strength* 189

Proof

Contents ix

<i>Bolstering confidence – “the battle belongs to the Lord . . .”</i>	191
<i>Enhancing the vision</i>	193
<i>Dealing with obstacles and failure</i>	196
<i>Envisaging a roadmap</i>	202
<i>Recruiting vision partners</i>	204
<i>Summary</i>	205
<b>Conclusion: Becoming a “visionary” Christian</b>	209
<i>Index</i>	212

Taylor & Francis  
Not for distribution

Proof