

Pastor Ron Case
9/15/13

“Eyes of the Heart”

“By faith (Moses) left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.” (Hebrews 11:27)

The New View

John 9:35-38 – (35) “Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ (36) He answered, ‘And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?’ (37) Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.’ (38) He said, ‘Lord, I believe, and he worshiped him.’”

The Skewed View

John 9:39-41 – (39) “Jesus said, ‘For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.’ (40) Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, ‘Are we also blind?’ (41) Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.’”

The Renewed View

Isaiah 49:3-6 – (3) “And (God) said to me, ‘You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.’ (4) But I said, ‘I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.’ (5) And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant... (6) he says: ‘It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.’”

Psalms 73:13-17 – (13) “All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. (14) For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning. (15) If I had said, ‘I will speak thus,’ I would have betrayed the generation of your children. (16) But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, (17) until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.”

Key Point: The Faithful Rely upon another Set of Eyes
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Spiritual Vision Considerations:

(1) Jesus is the Objective

“...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder (*chief leader*) and perfecter (*completer*) of our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

“Looking” – aphorao – to look away from all else at
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(2) Seeing is Receiving

“having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might” (Ephesians 1:18-19)

(3) See suffering for what it is

“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

What view of my life tends to get prioritized; the natural or the spiritual? (2 Cor. 5:16; John 7:24)

Have I submitted all my assumptions, presuppositions and “certainties” to God for review? (Heb. 4:12-13; Rom. 12:2)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)