



The Voice Of Truth

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The Eyes of the Lord

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God is watching! *For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, And his ears unto their supplication: But the face of the Lord is upon them that do evil (1 Peter 3:12).* The righteous are the ones over whom God watches to bless them. They are here contrasted with *them that do evil*. God's protection, guardianship, and care are so meaningful for the Christian. God sees all that happens on the earth. We are prone to accept only that which is visible, and, since we cannot see God watching, we are unmindful of His constant surveillance!

So, it is difficult for any of us to remember always that there is an all seeing eye watching our every our every act at all times. Yet, we're told, *Jehovah looketh from heaven; He beholdeth all the sons of men; From the place of his habitation he looketh forth upon all the inhabitants of the earth, He that fashioneth the hearts of them all, that considereth all their works (Psalm 33:13-14).* God sees and knows all that takes place in the world. *The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good (Proverbs 15:3).* There is no possible way to escape this all seeing eye of God! Job says, *For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings (Job 34:21).* God sees all! The ungodly try to forget it and often succeed in banishing Him out of their thoughts (*Psalm 10:4*). Yet, despite all their efforts to hide, still He sees them. His eyes are in every place. Heaven, hell, the secret places of the earth are all open before Him (*Proverbs 15:11; Psalm 139:8*). He is watching the evil; whether the king on his throne (*Acts 12:23*); or in his palace (*Daniel 5:5*); or the servant indulging in his secret sin (*2 Kings 5:20*). Yes - he may shut out the sun, but he cannot shut out the eye of God, no darkness or deep shadow can hide man (*Job 34:21-22; Jeremiah 16:17*). Reckless indeed is he to do or think that he could hide from God; and then - such is the root of atheism (*Psalm 14:1*) - thinking he can do so (*Isaiah 29:15*).

Since God knows all our goings, we should be aware of this, and live accordingly! We should have the same conviction as Hagar in saying, *Thou God seest me (Genesis 16:13)*. Are

you conscious of this as you plan and proceed in your daily affairs? God sees and reads us constantly! *Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?* (**Proverbs 15:11**). Hell and destruction; every recess of the vast Hades; the state of the dead, and the place of the damned - are before the Lord, before His eyes; completely known to Him. How much more, then, the hearts of the children of men (**1 John 3:20**), no matter how unsearchable they are (**Jeremiah 17:9-10**)! There's no depth in them that He cannot fathom; no deceit so complicated, that he can't track them. Words aren't needed in order for Him to lay open the heart. He perceived Aaron's rebellious feelings as easily as Moses' angry words (**Numbers 20:12, 24**). The inward hypocrisy of His people was as open before Him, as if it had been stamped upon their foreheads (**Deut. 5:28-29; Zeph. 1:12**).

Yet, what a mass of practical unbelief there is in this plainly conclusive truth! Would men dare to tolerate their vain thoughts, light notions, trifles and impurities, if they really believed that the Lord searches their hearts? Would they attempt to conceal anything from His eye (**Isaiah 29:15**). OH! Isn't it an overwhelming moment when a man has to stand the test of this searching eye? Brethren, make no mistake about it, your heart is open before your God. No covering of deceit can ever stand His searching eye. And all refuges of lies are pierced and laid bare. Though many of these passages are so well known, yet, how much have they really influenced our personal lives? Are we conscious throughout every day that God is silently observing our deeds and hearing our speech?

We can no more hide from God than could Adam and Eve in the garden. God knew why the prophet (Elijah) was hiding in the cave. Jonah was not hidden from God in the ship, nor yet in the belly of the great fish. Man cannot escape from Him. There is nothing that can hide from God! *And there is no creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him with whom we have to do* (**Hebrews 4:13**).

God is observing all we do, and hearing all we say. Just remember that God is really watching!

DO YOU LOVE THE CHURCH?

Christ loved the church so much that "He gave Himself up for her" (**Ephesians 5:25**). He "purchased" it "with His own blood" (**Acts 20:28**). **Do you love the church?**

Love will show itself in attendance. Why is it, that many have lax attitude in this regard? Far too many allow trivial matters to keep them from gathering to study the Bible and worship and encourage.

Love will show itself in support. Why is it that church work goes begging? Are we too busy, too occupied with other pursuits? Far too many do not feel any ownership when it comes to the church's work.

Love will show itself in daily living. Why is it that so many live without regard to how their actions affect the reputation of the church in a community? Far too many are so self-centered, that how they treat the church for which Jesus died doesn't seem to matter.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear and Learn - Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3

Believe - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

Confess the Lord - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10

Be Baptized - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21

Continue in the Apostles' Teaching - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17