

## **“THE EYES OF YOUR UNDERSTANDING”, #2**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In Eph. 1:18, Paul referred to “*the eyes of your understanding*” and named three things that he wanted them to understand and remember. The word “eyes” is used figuratively in this passage, referring to the idea of “seeing” or “understanding” of certain great truths of the Bible. God WANTS us to understand His will. David wrote, “*Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.*” Jesus spoke of one who “heareth the word and understandeth it” (Matt. 13:23). Again, Jesus said, “Hear, and understand” (Matt. 15:10). Paul said, “Be not unwise, but understanding the will of the Lord” (Eph. 5:17). These passages suggest that it is the WORD of God that is right, and gives us wisdom for life and eternity.

In this lesson, we shall make application of the statement with reference to other matters that we all need to see with our eyes of understanding, by asking some questions.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **I. 1<sup>st</sup>, Can’t you “SEE” (understand) that the BIBLE IS RIGHT?**

- A. Bro. Marshall Keeble, famous black evangelist of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, ALWAYS emphasized, when opposing error and setting forth truth, by saying, “The Bible Is Right.”
- B. For centuries, atheists and unbelievers have vainly attempted to discredit the Bible, and saying it contains errors and contradictions.
1. The Bible books began to be written about 4,000 years ago, with the writing of the book of Job, the Law of Moses, and the writings of the prophets.
  2. The Bible spoke of kings and nations that the world said did not exist, but modern archaeologists have uncovered evidence that such DID exist as the Bible states.
  3. The so-called “contradictions” in the Bible in reality were just variations of details between the writings of accounts in the life of Jesus, as they revealed different parts of the same event, and did NOT contradict one another.
- C. The Bible is **true** because it ALL has the same Author and MEANS of inspiration of the writers, GOD and the HOLY SPIRIT. 2 Sam. 23:2; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 17:17

#### **II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Can’t you “SEE” (understand) that the BIBLE IS RIGHT about THE PLAN SALVATION?**

- A. The devil deceives and blinds people to the TRUTH about how to be saved.
1. He leads some to believe that their “faith” ONLY is ALL they have to do to be saved and go to heaven. Cf Jas. 2:24; John 1:12; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38
  2. Do you think YOU can convince the Lord in the judgment day that the Bible is wrong?
- B. The devil deceives and leads some to reject the TRUTH about the “possibility of apostasy.”
1. He causes some to believe that “once saved, always saved.” cf Gal. 5:4; Heb. 3:12; Jas. 5:19-20
    - a. Some think that because PAST sins are forgiven, that FUTURE sins are automatically forgiven and not cause them to be lost.
    - b. We have one example of a saved person having departed from the truth and was warned about losing his soul if he did not repent and pray for pardon. Acts 8:12-13, 17-24
      - 1) Simon was not told to be baptized again, for he had already done that in being saved and becoming a child of God.

- 2) But, as an erring person who HAD already been saved, he was told to repent and pray.
2. Do you think YOU can convince the Lord in the day of judgment that the Bible is wrong?

### **III. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Can't you "SEE" (understand) that Christ has ONLY ONE CHURCH?**

- A. Christ emphatically reveals the existence of only ONE church, in reality.
1. He promised to build what He called "my church" (singular), and in describing it, He used the singular noun "it", instead of the plural noun "them". Matt. 16:18
  2. The scripture teaches the ONENESS of His church. 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4
  3. The ONE church consists of many **local congregations** that meet in different cities, but teach the same thing. 1 Cor. 1:2, 10
- B. The scripture foretold a "departure" from the truth, whereby false teaching would take place. 1 Tim. 4:1; Matt. 15:9
1. Are **any** of the false human churches that are not named in the New Testament, the SAME as the ONE church of Christ, merely because they **exist**?
  2. Do you think YOU are the one to convince the Lord on the judgment day that one church is as good as another, OR that all churches, even not named in the scripture, and teach things different than what the apostles taught, **make up the ONE church Jesus built?**

### **IV. 4<sup>th</sup>, Can't you "SEE" (understand) that one cannot SIN and get away with it?**

- A. The Bible warns that sin will be penalized. Num. 32:23; Eccl. 12:13-14; Rom. 6:23; Gal. 6:7-8
- B. The Bible being true, who thinks he can stand before God and convince Him that He is wrong?

### **V. 5<sup>th</sup>, Can't you "SEE" (understand) that everyone has an eternal soul?**

- A. This being true, it behooves each person to prepare that soul for eternity. Job 32:8; Matt. 10:28; Heb. 12:9
1. At death, the spirit departs from the body, and waits in Hades till the resurrection day. Jas. 2:26
  2. The certainty of death means the certainty of eternal judgment. Heb. 9:27
  3. In the resurrection, the soul AND body will stand before the Lord to be judged. 2 Cor. 5:10-11
- B. What person, a frail human being with human wisdom, can convince the God of heaven in the judgment day that He (God) is wrong? Matt. 7:21-23

#### **CONCLUSION**

- I. Finally, Can't you "SEE" (understand) that NOW, TODAY, is the best time to obey God?
- II. The invitation of the Lord is extended to you now while we stand together and sing.

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