

# “TWENTY TWENTY VISION”

## INTRODUCTION

- I. When one goes to his optometrist or eye specialist, especially after having a major vision problem that has been corrected, and then being told that the correction is made, and he now has 20 20 vision—that is good news
  - A. However, if health or accident occurs, and this perfect vision is lost, that is tragic news.
  - B. There is another 20 20 vision which is actually more important, for it pertains to the soul, involving spiritual vision.
- II. This being early in a new year, especially with it being 2020, it behooves us to visualize the importance of having and maintaining a good 2020 vision.

## DISCUSSION

### I. 1<sup>st</sup>, WE NEED 2020 VISION FOR THE PAST.

- A. The past is prologue, and cannot be changed, but a look into the past MAY motivate us for the PRESENT and for the FUTURE.
  1. The church needs to have 2020 vision into the past and see what caused the church to fall into apostasy in centuries past, and avoid letting those things happen again. 1 Tim. 4:1
  2. We may need to have 2020 vision for the past, and see if there are sins we have committed then for which we have not yet received pardon, for we have not repented of them.
  3. We may need to have 2020 vision for the past to see where we may have failed, and then strive to do better in the future.
    - a. Paul looked to the past to motivate himself only to appreciate the Lord more, and motivate himself to press on to the future. 1 Tim. 1:12-16; Phil. 3:4-7; 13-14
    - b. Peter said we look into the past to remember that we have been forgiven, and then add to our lives the qualities that belong to Christian character. 2 Pet. 1:5-10
- B. Each of us needs 2020 vision of the past, to help us have 2020 vision for the present and for the future.

### II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, WE NEED 2020 VISION FOR THE PRESENT.

- A. Each one needs to look at self to see our present relationship with Christ. 1 Cor. 11:28; 2 Cor. 13:5
  1. If you have not yet been baptized for the remission of sins, that can be resolved today, if you are ready to repent, and truly **want** to be a Christian. Acts 2:38
  2. If you have sinned in such a way that it has hurt the church of our Lord, you need to repent and pray for forgiveness. Acts 8:22
- B. Do you exercise 2020 vision into your present life?
  1. Are you in the habit of attending worship assemblies **only** when you feel like it, and not because God asks you to be involved in worship?
  2. Have you been withholding your Sunday contribution to the church because you have been spending all your money on less important things? 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7
  3. Do you know of another person, **right now**, who is lost in sin and needs to become a Christian and enjoy salvation?

- a. Pray to God for courage to go and visit with one who is lost that they might be saved.
- b. Put yourself in that person's shoes, and see yourself lost, and how blessed and thankful **you** would be if someone helped you to be saved.

C. There **are** areas into which we ALL need to exercise 2020 vision—all the time.

1. We need to **"look"** into God's word to find food for the soul. Acts 20:32; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18
2. We need to **"look"** for opportunities to do good and influence them for God. Gal. 6:10
3. We need to **"look"** into the word of God to see if we are doing what it says. James 1:25; 2:22
4. We need to **"look"** to Jesus, to follow His example and strength to endure hardships. 1 Pet. 3:21; Heb. 12:1-2

### **III. 3<sup>Rd</sup>, WE NEED 2020 VISION FOR THE FUTURE.**

A. We are **all** alive, right now, but can you visualize death in your future?

1. If so, do you see yourself dying "in the Lord?" Rev. 14:13
2. Chances are, if you are not right at this present time, that you may never find time to obey the Lord to be saved.
3. Many wayward members, and non-members of the church, have realized that they are lost, and indicate that they will get right someday, but death overtakes them and that opportunity is gone forever, and will not return.

B. Do you look with joy to the coming of the Lord? Tit. 2:11-13; 2 Pet. 3:13

1. Visualize yourself in eternity in your present condition.
2. For a moment, visualize yourself standing before the Lord and being judged.
3. For a moment, visualize yourself in eternal torment, with never a chance to repent.
4. if you don't like what you see, you CAN change it, even today. Matt. 25:1-13

#### **CONCLUSION**

I. Finally, use your 2020 vision to see the judgment day.

A. You will see that Christ will be the only judge, and will judge fairly. 2 Tim. 4:8

B. You will see that Christ will use the scripture as His only standard, and opinions and submission to human doctrines in a denomination will not save. John 12:48

1. Some will argue that they ought to be saved for their good works based on what they were taught, but will be lost. Matt. 7:21-23
2. You may say, "Lord, I thought all I had to do was to believe to be saved," but He will not find justification for that in the scripture. Cf Mark 16:16
3. Or, one may say, "Lord, I was baptized to please my wife, or get into my favorite denomination," but He will not find justification for that in the scripture.

II. As you exercise 2020 vision in the future, and don't like what you see, you CAN do something about it—right now.