

The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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BIBLE EYES

Larry R. Ping II

Eyes appear in every corner of the Bible. They help to describe and define individuals. What sort of eyes do you have? Consider.

1) Pleasure-Seeking Eyes. Eve was in possession of just these sort (Gen. 3:6). The devil uses this avenue of temptation quite well (I Jn. 2:16). Others in God’s Word were led astray by pleasure-seeking eyes, such as Achan (Josh. 7:21) and David (II Sam. 11:2).

2) Consumed Eyes. A failure to listen to God and His law would result in “terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes” (Lev. 26:16). May we always heed the Savior’s command, “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear” (Matt. 11:15).

3) Law-Filled Eyes. Regarding His law, God said it should be as “frontlets between thine eyes” (Deut. 6:8). This is the equivalent of the Psalmist’s words in

Psalm 1:2, “But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.” This requires us to read God’s Word (Eph. 3:4), study God’s Word (II Tim. 2:15) and be as Jesus and “do and teach” (Acts 1:1).

4) Self-Righteous Eyes. Twice, in the book of Judges, it states “every man did that which was right in his own eyes” (Jdg. 17:6; Jdg. 21:25). This activity resulted in the sin cycle notated in Jdg. 2:16-19. The same cycle occurs today for the same reason, men doing that which is right in their own eyes, which leads to the “ways of death” (Prov. 14:12; Prov. 16:25).

5) Grace-Filled Eyes. Ruth wondered aloud to Boaz “Why have I found grace in thy eyes” (Ruth 2:10). Boaz had shown the young widow favor, and was thankful for it. Noah “found grace in the eyes of the Lord” (Gen. 6:8). We, too, are offered this

saving grace (Eph. 2:5). All men have access to it (Tit. 2:11), but few have accessed it “by faith” (Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:8). We certainly should extend grace to others, and are overwhelmingly thankful God has shed it upon us (Neh. 9:31).

6) Covenant-Making Eyes. Job uttered “I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid” (Job. 31:1)? This man of faith and endurance made an agreement with his eyes not to look lustily upon women (Matt. 5:28). Sounds like a great pact, does it not?

7) Fastened-On-Jesus Eyes. In the synagogue, on the Sabbath, Jesus read from Isa. 61:1-2. Once finished, the Bible records “the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him” (Lk. 4:20). May our eyes be fixed firmly on the Lord, knowing He is “the Shepherd and Bishop” of our souls (I Pet. 2:25). What say ye?

“Of God” Through Paul’s Pen

Larry R. Ping II

Guided by the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 2:10-12; II Pet. 1:20-21), Paul wrote thirteen New Testament epistles. Confined within those books are scores of uses of the phrase “of God.” Such makes for a good study. To that end this article is offered. Paul writes about...

1) Gospel of God

(Rom. 1:1). The “good news” belongs to none other than God Himself. Later, Paul would warn about “another Gospel: which is not another” (Gal. 1:6-7). Any man who teaches another Gospel other than God’s is to be “accursed” (Gal. 1:8-9).

2) Will of God (I

Cor. 1:1). The “will of God” is that which is His plan and decision alone. Jesus taught men to pray in such a way when He commanded to say, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” (Matt. 6:10). Mature people of God decree the same as Paul himself, “The will of the Lord be done” (Acts 21:14).

3) Promises of

God (Gal. 3:21). In speaking about the purpose of the Law of Moses, Paul made mention of the “promises of God” (Gal. 3:19-21). Let the Biblical record reflect, God is the greatest Promise-Keeper of all time. Peter confirmed this by penning “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise” (II Pet. 3:9). What God has promised will prove to be true, whether it be good or severe (Rom. 11:22).

4) Household of God

(Eph. 2:19). Later in the same letter, Paul refers to the “household of God” to the “whole family in heaven and earth” (Eph. 3:15). What a great honor, privilege and help it is to be part of this blood-bought family (Acts 20:28). Through it, I have those who will “weep” and “rejoice” with me (Rom. 12:15) and those who will, if need be, “suffer” with me (I Cor. 12:26).

5) Glory of God

(Php. 2:11). Paul cautioned

the Philippian brethren that “every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Php. 2:11). God should always be the recipient of glory and credit. Moses and Aaron were disallowed into the Promise Land because they failed to “sanctify” God “in the eyes of the children” (Num 20:12). Herod was “eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost” because “he gave not God the glory” (Acts 12:23). May we be as Joseph (Gen. 41:16) and Daniel (Dan. 2:28) and return to God what He deserves, the glory and credit.

6) Peace of God

(Col. 3:15). True “peace of God” comes to those who are “called in one body” (Col. 3:15). One makes entrance into this body by being “baptized” into it (I Cor. 12:13). This peace was made possible “through the blood of his cross” (Col. 1:20). Have you found this peace yet? If not, why not?

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MEETING TIMES (EST)

SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm