

WHAT DO YOU “LOOK” AT?

By Keith Greer

“Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: ‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them.’ But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.” {Matthew 13:13-17} Unfortunately, many in today’s religious world have the same type of eye problems. Their eyes are:

Spiritually Blind. *“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” {2 Corinthians 4:3,4}* When it comes to religious differences, many have allowed Satan to close their eyes. Surely, they can read and understand, but by closing their minds, they choose to shut their proverbial eyes. What will be the result? *“Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.” {Matthew 15:14}*

Out of Focus. *“While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” {2 Corinthians 4:18}* Sometimes folks’ eyes are out of focus. What do I mean? They focus on the wrong things. Worldly minded people focus their attention on worldly things instead of eternal things that relate to God. *“For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” {2 Corinthians 5:1}* *“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” {Colossians 3:1,2}* We must adjust our eyes and focus on the spiritual things that will lead us to eternal life.

Evil. *“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” {Matthew 6:22-24}* One whose eyes continually focus on evil will never be pleasing to God!

Lustful. *“But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” {Matthew 5:28}* We must be very careful what we look at with our eyes. Unfortunately in our country everywhere you look—TV, billboards, commercials, the way people dress (immodest), movies, and even people in the Lord’s church that should know better can lead us into sin. It reminds me of a country song called “I Got a Wandering Eye.” In the song one verse says, “I find it so unnatural to look away when I see a pretty girl, I’m just looking not looking to find.” Wrong, “window

shopping” will take us down the path of sin! When we look upon people to commit sin, we allow our eyes to cause our hearts to lust; yielding to that lust leads to sin and spiritual death.

Downcast. *“Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest.' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!”* {John 4:35} Do we appear to be sad about missing our past lives and wishing we were again enjoying the pleasures of sin? Sometimes we spend a great deal of time and energy thinking about the things we gave up for Christ’s sake and less time developing new desires to replace those bad sinful ones of our past!

Please examine this list. What kind of EYES do you have? Our Lord provides the only lasting cure for these eye problems. {Revelation 3:17; Ephesians 1:18; Psalm 17:8}***