

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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The Eyes

"The eye is the window of the soul; even an animal looks for a man's intentions right into his eyes." – Hiram Powers

"Women bring conquerors to their feet with the magic of their eyes." – Dr. J.V.C. Smith

"The eye is the jewel of the body." – Henry David Thoreau

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." – Oliver Platt

"Men trust their ears less than their eyes." – Herodotus

If you have good eyesight, you are indeed richly blessed. As of 2012, there were some 285 million people in the world who were visually impaired. To help put that into perspective that is about 90% of the population of the United States.

The human eye is said to have some 200 million working parts with some 107 million light sensitive cells. According to lenstore.co.uk, "Your eyes contain 7 million cones which help you see color and detail, as well as 100 million cells called rods which help you see better in the dark."

The Psalmist said it well, "I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well" (Psa. 139:14).

The word "eyes" is mentioned 501 times in Scripture, and the word "eye," 108 times. Obviously, it is a subject of great importance.

No doubt our eyes have witnessed some wonderful things over our lifespan, and terrible things too. We have rejoiced to see a newborn child, and mourned to see the loss of a loved one. We have had joy in our hearts when one is baptized into Christ and we witnessed it. We have been grieved to see one turn from God and walk out the door of the church building never to return.

As valuable as our eyes are, we need to be cautious in what we allow them to see. In the Psalm of resolutions, the writer says, "I will set nothing wicked before my eyes" (Psa. 101:3). David learned the hard way, as he cast his eyes on Bathsheba that led him down the road to even greater sin (2 Sam. 11:2ff).

In Satan's arsenal, is "the lust of the eyes" (1 John 2:16). What we see can often be very enticing. Many a sin can be related to what the eye has seen. This is vividly illustrated early on in Scripture. "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it

was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate" (Gen. 3:6).