

Messenger Of Truth

"Holding forth the word of life" (Phil. 2:16).

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Vision

"Better one-eyed than stone blind." – Anonymous

"None so blind as those who won't see." – John Heywood, *Proverbs*

"An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision." – James Whistler

"It is a terrible thing to see and have no vision." – Helen Keller

"Every man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world." – Arthur Schopenhauer

How is your vision? That may seem like a strange question particularly if you are blessed to have 20-20 vision. Many of us have to wear corrective lenses to see what others can without the aid of glasses or contacts.

Actually, there is a vision that goes beyond a person's eyesight or lack thereof. And it is amazing how short-sighted folks really are.

On one occasion in Scripture, we read the Lord's words of the Jews of that first century: "Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand" (Matt. 13:13). In verse 15 he then charges that they had their eyes closed to the truth. Consider that the law and the prophets pointed to Christ, and He was before them and they refused to see or acknowledge who He was!

Sometimes when we speak of vision we do refer to one's refusal to see the truth. But there is another aspect of vision that we need to note. And that is the ability to see or envision what might be possible. We speak of vision in the sense of hope, seeing the potential in people's lives, or even congregations.

Perhaps one can see in others tremendous potential. Thankfully, faithful brethren have spotted talent within the church and young men were encouraged to preach the Gospel. Good sisters have become outstanding Bible class teachers thanks to someone seeing in them a quality that needed to be harnessed.

Churches have grown because someone had enough vision and foresight that they could see the potential for growth. In their minds they saw the talent, and through prayer and perseverance, they helped influence churches to be soul saving congregations with dynamic growth.

Vision does indeed go beyond the realm of what we physically see. Helen Keller was deaf and blind, but even she knew that greatness requires seeing beyond physical vision.

Whether we are talking of refusing to see the truth, or talking about the vision for better things in the future, this is an area that needs attention. May God help us to improve our vision!