

Open My Eyes *Psalm 119:18*

Topic: Thankfulness

Aim: To remind folks of the blessings that God has given

1. Have you ever thought about how much you see in a day that you ignore?
2. Your mind subconsciously filters what you see each day to avoid visual overload.
3. But some folks filter out too much and fail to see what is important.
4. We call them unobservant. The older folks said they walked around with blinders on.
5. This could become a serious problem, especially when we fail to see some important things.
6. Jesus spoke of this in Matthew 13:14-17. Compare that to the Psalmist's plea in Psalm 119:18.

I. Look closely at Psalm 119:18.

A. Psalm 119 is unique in three ways.

1. It is the longest Psalm, 176 verses in the English Bible.
2. It is an acrostic based on the Hebrew alphabet.
3. Every verse but three mentions God's Word in one way or another.

B. But look at the plea ... "Open my eyes ... "

1. What had caused the writer to pen such a tribute to God's word?
2. Had he been ignoring it? Had something come up in his life that he turned to the Word after not reading it for a while and rediscovered its wonders?

C. Notice the second part ... "that I may see wondrous things from your law."

1. What wondrous things?
2. This is the Old Testament, the Law through Samuel. Psalms, Job.
3. He marveled at:
 - a. The story of creation that reminded him of his origin, and relation to God (in His image).
 - b. The story of Noah reminded him of God's judgment, grace, mercy and love.
 - c. The story of Abraham and the Israelite nation reminded him of his part in God's history.
 - d. The signs and wonders reminded him of the nature of Yahwah Elohim El Shaddai.
 - e. The story of the Exodus reminded him of the faithfulness and salvation of God.
 - f. The Law reminded him of his need to live his life dedicated to Yahwah Elohim El Shaddai.
 - g. How God dealt with people

II. Do we need to make a similar plea to God today?

A. How easy it is to get involved in living life and take something for granted.

1. We do it with things, people, life, blessings.
2. We can do it with spiritual things as well.

B. The wonders of God's word are even greater for us today.

1. There is the story of God's coming in the flesh, John 1:1-14.
2. There is the story of his great life and teaching, Matthew - John, Sermon on Mount.
3. Then there is the story of Calvary. But the wonders do not end there!
4. There is the resurrection, and the story of the explosive growth of the church in Acts.
5. There is the wonder of the apocalyptic battle wherein the Lamb and his allies defeat the devil and his allies in Revelation.

C. Finally, there is the wonder of salvation and heaven revealed throughout.

1. What a wonder that as a sinner, God still loved me and Christ died for me, Romans 5:1-11.
2. What a wonder that by obeying the gospel, my sins are forgiven, Acts 2:38!
3. What a wonder, a place in heaven is reserved for me, 1 Peter 1:3-5.

1. Let us not go through life with blinders on. We will miss too much.,
2. Let us pray to God: "Open my eyes that I may see wondrous things from your law."
3. Thank you God for that marvelous gift.

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