

THE EYES OF THE LORD

Proverbs 15:3 ... "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

We know that God knows all, and see all. We accept that truth without thinking much about it. But let's take a little closer look at the concept, especially given today's verse about the eyes of the Lord.

First, we are told that "the eyes of the Lord are in every place." We have taught previously that God chooses to not be in the presence of sin. Some teachers might say that God cannot be in the presence of sin, but that would presume there are artificial limits or restrictions on God. We cannot believe that there is something that our all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect God cannot do. Instead, we recognize that God **CHOOSES** to not do certain things, including being with us when we sin.

Second, we believe that God blesses us when we worship and serve him, and when we do good things for others in his name. God must be watching us when we do good, for he promises to bless us for doing good works in his name. If you are a believer who is serving God sacrificially, you know the blessings of God for your service. If you are not feeling blessed in your Christian life, you should consider the status of your relationship with him. Are you really a born-again follower of Christ? Are you trying your best to live obediently to him? Are you serving him? These are the questions I ask people when they say they do not feel blessed by God.

Third, and this may be a surprise to some, today's verse tells us that the Lord sees all that is evil. If you have thought that the good things you do outweigh the bad, you may be disappointed when you someday appear before Christ at the final judgment when he returns. For God to keep a record of your sins, he must see them. Perhaps this will encourage you to live more obediently to Christ and confess your sins promptly. Christ must also see the evil of satan, his demons, and his followers in order to deliver justice before he sentences them to hell.

Christ does not make the mistakes of our legal system where people are sometimes convicted and sentenced to prison (or death) based on circumstantial evidence, the testimonies of unreliable witnesses, or even when some are released to commit further crimes because of mishandled investigations, clever attorneys or corrupt judges. God's justice system suffers from none of these problems. No one will ever suffer injustice in the court of Christ. If you think you will be able to argue your way out of hell, plead for mercy, or receive a pardon for your sins if you fail to repent of them before you face Christ, you are badly mistaken. There is no second chance if you die with your sins unforgiven.

Keep today's verse in mind as you go about your day and week. Though God may not be present with you when you sin, he sees it all, along with the good that you do. But the good that you do will be worth little if you are judged for unconfessed, unrepentant sins once you die.

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