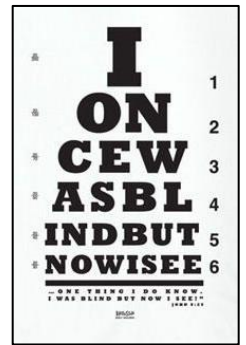




Spiritual Blindness

Everybody's Got it!

Eye Exam #3



*Let's sing: Open the eyes of my heart, Lord - open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see You; I want to see You.
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord - open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see You; I want to see You. To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory; pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You; I want to see You
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You; I want to see You.*

Eph. 1:18-19 The eyes of your understanding (heart) being lit up; that you may know what is the hope of His calling; that you may know the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,..... (NKJV)

Eph. 1:18-19 I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. (NLT)

1. __Y__N Is this verse talking about **physical sight**?
2. __Y__N Is this verse talking about **spiritual sight**?
3. The words "He, His, Him" are referring to whom? _____
4. __Y__N Is it possible to understand the "confident **hope**" for our lives without God's light being involved?
5. __Y__N Is it possible to know how **valuable** we are to God without God's light?
6. __Y__N Is it possible to appreciate the incredible **power** that God wants to build in our lives without His light?

Join me in front of the mirror. Look at us. Life has beat us up because of our bad choices. Look! We feel hopeless, worthless, and powerless.

Acts 26:18 Jesus said to Paul, "I will deliver you from the Jews and the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins....."

1. When a person's spiritual eyes are opened by God, what three things happen?
 - a. He/She can turn from _____ to _____.
 - b. He/She can turn from the power of _____ to _____.
 - c. He/She can receive _____.
2. Have your spiritual eyes (your heart, your life) been opened to God? __Y__N

To become a Christian, basically two things happen:

- a. God shines His light into your inherited heart born into darkness. (He does this.)
- b. You accept the Light, realize it is God and decide to follow Him. (You do this.)

** To see & hear the hidden treasures of God requires a new heart and spiritual eyes.

** Our heart is the SOURCE of what we think, feel, do, and desire.

** Our heart is the SOURCE of why we think, feel, do, and desire.

1. If our heart gets all its information & understanding **from darkness**, how will that affect what we think, feel, do, and desire? _____
2. If your heart gets its information & understanding **from the light** (God), how will that affect what we think, feel, do, and desire? _____
3. For a person who is not a believer, where does his/her heart get its information? _____
4. For a person who is a believer, where does his/her heart get its information? _____

"When I was a kid, my family had no desire for God or that church stuff. My parents were ok people but our lives never involved God (Except for one weird thing). My father loved to watch Billy Graham in TV. I was afraid of my Dad but I liked to do things with him. Starting at age 5, I started watching Billy Graham with him. At about age 6 or 7, I asked if I could go to church. No one wanted to go - so I walked over a mile each way on a busy road to get to a big church on the main street. I can't remember much about those church services, but something lit a fire in my heart; I didn't even know what. I kept going there alone until we moved when I was 8.

1. Y N Do you remember times in your childhood when God shined His light your direction?
2. Y N Did your parents attend church and you had to go too?
3. Y N Maybe, some neighbor had a backyard Bible club in the neighborhood?
4. Y Y Just for curiosity, did you read the Bible on your parents' coffee table?
5. Y N Maybe like me, there was a church near your house, and you wanted to go.
6. Y N Did you luck out and have a grandma who took you to church sometimes?
7. Y N Did someone close die, and your mind suddenly thought of God?
8. Y N Did you ever have to go to the hospital where you met a pastor or chaplain?

When I think back on it now, YES! God did shine His light my way from time to time. I didn't get it then. I went to a backyard Bible club; I read my parents' family Bible sometimes; there was a church near my house; I did get hurt, went to the hospital, and met some preacher guy; He prayed for me & then left.

John 1:5
John 1:9

The light (God) shines in the darkness that I was born in. I didn't understand it.
God shines that True Light at everybody born on this planet.

1. Y N You and I didn't know we were born in "God-direction (spiritual) darkness."
2. Y N God knew we did **not have a chance** because of Adam & Eve.
3. Y N God chose a way to **aim the light my direction**, then **waited for my answer**.
4. Y N **Did He get an answer** from you when His light shined on you?
5. Y N Has God shined the light your direction **more than once**?
6. Y N Could this continual shining of the light mean that **God really loves me**?