

## Needing New Glasses

II Kings 6:16-17



*He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see."*  
- II Kings 6:16-17a

*I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ...*

- Ephesians 1:16-19

## Christians are Different

➤ Sometimes creates tension (persecution)

*Remember the word that I said to you: "A servant is not greater than his master." If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.*

- John 15:20

➤ Nevertheless, we need to maintain our perspective and clarity of vision

## We Should be Spiritually-Oriented

- We all will someday be judged
  - We will give an account of every thought, deed, and word
  - We will receive either a punishment in hell or a reward in heaven

## We Should be Spiritually-Oriented

- We all will someday be judged
- The Bible teaches spiritual lessons
  - We are to "seek the things that are above" (Colossians 3:1-2)
  - Our lives are not in our possessions (Luke 12:13-15)
  - Our lives are not in our accomplishments (Matthew 16:26; Mark 8:36; Luke 9:25)

**We Should be Spiritually-Oriented**

- We all will someday be judged
- The Bible teaches spiritual lessons
- A spiritually-oriented viewpoint will affect our everyday lives and decisions

**But Satan Is Hard At Work**

- Satan always has those colored glasses
  - *Colored glasses can affect our perspective*
  - *We need to remember the Scriptures present the true reality of this world*
  - *Life is all about the here and now*
  - *Even some "religious" people slide into a low appreciation for spiritual things and lose clarity*
    - ✓ "Playing church"          ✓ Worship is a social event
    - ✓ Pay lip service to Bible and authority
    - ✓ Satisfy social or physical needs

**But Satan Is Hard At Work**

- Satan always has those colored glasses
- Christians can lose clarity of vision
  - *Some fail to grow because they have stopped focusing on spiritual things*
  - *Our vision can become out-of-focus or distorted*

*For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.*  
 – II Peter 1:9

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    - ✓ Current virus obsession

*For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.*  
 – Philippians 1:21-22

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    - ✓ Current virus obsession
    - ✓ Current racial tension

*You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.*  
 – Matthew 5:13

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    - ✓ Current virus obsession
    - ✓ Current racial tension
    - ✓ Current political environment

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*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.*  
– Romans 13:1-2

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*Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this world."*  
– John 18:36

## Conclusions

- ☞ We serve an awesome God – one that is in total control of the world, loves us, and wants the best for us
- ☞ Satan wants to distort our vision and distract our attention
- ☞ Maintaining clarity of vision brings us comfort, hope, and conviction