

Seeing Clearly

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Psalm 36:9

Light is the great revealer. In the darkness of night, the forms of things are only partially seen because darkness covers intricate details. When the sun rises with its penetrating light, things once shrouded in the cover of darkness, now take on distinct shape. As night gives way to dawn, obscurity takes on clarity.

Our true life finds its source in God's fountain of eternal life. Being born again empowers us to live a life that is filled with divine purpose. Repenting of the old life opens the door to all things becoming new. With the Holy Spirit residing within us, we now have the Great Teacher Who is able to reveal to us things once hidden to our dead spirit. As we draw closer to the brightness of the Lord's presence, the more fully he will shine allowing us to see things hidden below the surface.

One benefit derived from dwelling in the light of His presence is being enabled to uncover the depths of His word. Some of the Bible's teachings are easily observed, while others require the Lord's light to mine deeper truths. Going beyond casual reading and taking time to meditate on the Word allows the light to shine in every nook and cranny of a verse. The brighter the light, the fuller the revelation. With *the entrance of the light of His word to give us understanding* (Ps. 119:130), *our path will shine more and more until that perfect day* (Prov. 4:18).

Another benefit of being in His light is that our inner sins are revealed. At the time of conversion, our more obvious outward sins are usually the first of which we repent. Lest we grow comfortable in our newly changed life, the Lord shines more brightly to reveal the hidden sins of our hearts. After delineating a list of sins in Mark 7, our Lord states that: *All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.* As the Holy Spirit brings the self-centeredness that affects our motives to the surface for us to recognize, we can then, with the Lord's help, repent of it. In the light of His presence, our pride, envy, wicked thoughts, anger, vengeful spirits, and a host of other hindrances are revealed, and He provides us the choice to be liberated to a fuller and deeper relationship with our Lord.

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