

September 5, 2021

The Eyes of the Lord

by George Slover

“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.” (2 Chronicles 16:9)

Asa had been one of Judah’s good kings. The early reforms of Asa, had encouraged the nation to enter into a covenant with Jehovah. The historian records: And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and sought Him with all their soul; and He was found by them, and the LORD gave them rest all around.” (2 Chronicles 15:15) However, our last impression of Asa is not good.

In the 36th year of the reign of Asa, Baasha, king of Israel, threatened Judah. Instead of trusting in the Lord, Asa entered into a treaty with the king of Syria by giving him treasury from the house of the Lord. Thus, the above verse is part of God’s unfortunate message to King Asa.

Jehovah is pictured as one who is everywhere observing the conduct of men and drawing distinctions. God divides all men into two classes: good and evil. At the first, Asa had been among those who sought God with all of his heart. Sadly, at the end of his reign he became faint hearted and failed. He sought success through compromise rather than implicit trust in God.

Since God knows all that transpires

on the earth, he waits for opportunities to interpose in behalf of his people. In times of danger, seasons of affliction, and moments of trial, he shows “Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.” God’s omniscience can be of great comfort to those who seek him.

Do we have the perfect heart to whom Divine comfort is promised? This does not mean that we are sinless. But, we must be sincerely willing to acknowledge our transgressions and strive with all of our hearts to walk in God’s ways. We must refuse to ally ourselves with the world.

God is always there to comfort his faithful ones. He will show himself strong and give them great success.

Soaring Like Eagles

By George Slover

“Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall. But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:30,31)

Prior to chapter 40 Isaiah has spoken primarily of judgment. He has mixed words of doom (Isa.10:1-3) with words of promise (Isa. 10:20,21). He has spoken of better days ahead- the time of the Messiah and his kingdom. (Isa. 2:1-4) Now Isaiah speaks primarily to

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our meeting with Mike Walls has been postponed.

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

the remnant with words of comfort. (Isa.40:1) The conclusion of chapter 40 is some of the most encouraging language in the Old Testament. Consider some important points from these verses.

First, he humbles us and reminds us of our need for him. The young soldier may be able to use his physical strength to win in times of physical war, but such will not be so in this battle. He will meet with disappointment and heartache. He will face times of faint heartedness, fear, and temptation. Questions will arise to challenge his faith. It will seem as if God has abandoned him. We will need the armor God provides to win this battle (Eph. 6:10-17)

Second, we must know of the power that God gives to the weak. (Isa.40:29) God is there to help! He can provide resistance in the hour of temptation, endurance for the trials, steadfastness for the faint hearted. God's help is constantly available for he "neither faints nor is weary." (Isa.40:28) There is no God like Him!

Third, such power is available only to those who "wait on the Lord." It is available to all, but can only be accessed by those who desire such. To "wait upon the Lord" appears eight times in Isaiah. We must wait upon him in prayer and in meditation of his word.

Fourth, a triple experience is promised to those who pursue Jehovah. First, we will mount up "with wings like eagles." (Isa. 40:31) As we soar higher and higher, we will be surprised at how the worries of this world harassed us. Second, we "shall run and not be weary." We will feel "young" again. Third, we "shall walk and not faint." We will have hills to climb, rivers to ford, and daily chores to attend to. But, God is there to help us! The end result is awesome!

So, "saints lift you voices, tho dark your days! Lift up your spirits, sing out his praise! Upward the calling, brighter the light! Soaring like eagles on wings of flight!"

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is at home and undergoing physical therapy.

Jerry Richardson is still undergoing cancer treatments.

Nancy Richardson is doing better but still dealing with breathing problems.

Karen Hallmark has improved but is still struggling with her health and her eyes, as well as asthma.

Dinah Williams continues to be homebound due to mobility issues. She had a small fire at her house and is staying at the Comfort Inn while repairs are being made.

Wilma Shipley is recovering from covid.

Henry & Beverly Barth are ill with covid.

Don Simmons is ill with covid and has been taken to Seton Northwest.

Mike & Debbie McMurray are recovering from covid.

Zola Fisher are recovering from covid.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

"praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,"
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

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