







“...having the eyes of your heart enlightened, that you may know 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...”

EPHESIANS 1:18-19

Have you lost sight of Jesus?

We all need to pray:
“Lord, let me recover my sight.”



I. The Misery of Spiritual Blindness

LUKE 18:31-34

“And taking the twelve, he said to them, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished.’ But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.”

LUKE 18:31-34

“He is going to Jerusalem to fulfill what is written about the Son of Man. Indeed, ‘everything recorded in the Prophets will be fulfilled as he goes to Jerusalem. God’s plan is being worked out in the ministry of Jesus.”

TOM SCHREINER

- Spiritual Blindness is Willful Ignorance.

We can't see or make sense of the sufferings of Christ in Scripture because they don't fit our plans for the exaltation of self.

“We must not overread the reference to God’s sovereignty, as if it suggested that the Twelve were not responsible for their incomprehension. Both truths must be held in tension: the disciples should understand what Jesus teaches, and are responsible for their lack of perception; at the same time, all that is happening under God’s sovereign control.”

TOM SCHREINER

“And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, ‘The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed on the third day be raised.’ And He said to all, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”

LUKE 9:21 - 23

Luke 9:43-46 But while they were all marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let these words sink into your ears: ‘The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.’ But they did not understand this saying and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying. **An argument arose among them as to who was the greatest.**”

LUKE 9:43 - 46

“A dispute arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest.”

LUKE 22:24

- 1. Self-Focus: Before making a decision, do you think, "What's in it for me?" or do you freely sacrifice for the good of another without expecting a return?
- 2. Self-Righteousness: Are you more concerned with, and on the lookout for, the sin, weakness and moral failure of others than you are your own?
- 3. Self-Satisfaction: Do you feel regularly discontent, always looking for something new to satisfy you, instead of being satisfied with a God-honoring life?
- 4. Self-Reliance: Do you avoid living in intrusive and intentional relationships, where others admit their need for grace and seek the help of biblical community?
- 5. Self-Rule: Which law gets the most attention and the quickest response in your life and relationships, the Word of God or your own desires?

PAUL TRIPP

Is this why you have lost sight of Jesus?

You have been so focused on your kingdom and your agenda and your life that you can't make sense of the cross of Christ.

- Spiritual Blindness is Fearful Resistance.

We are afraid of considering Christ's sufferings because of what it might mean for us?

“For He will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day, he will rise.”

LUKE 18:32-33

“But while they were all marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let these words sink into your ears: ‘The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.’ But they did not understand this saying and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. **And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.**”

LUKE 9:43-45

“The chief pang of most trials is not so much the actual suffering itself as our own spirit of resistance to it.”

JEAN GROU

Is this why you have lost sight of Jesus?

You are afraid that his sufferings might lead to greater sufferings for you rather than comfort.

“O Father, touch us with fresh faith that we might believe the incredible. The very pain of Christ that makes us despair is our salvation. Open our fearful hearts to receive the gospel. Waken the dead parts of our hearts that cannot feel what must be felt-that we are loved with the deepest, strongest, purest love in the universe.”

JOHN PIPER

• **Spiritual Blindness is a Tearful Existence.**

Spiritual blindness makes the hope of the resurrection incomprehensible to the twelve.

“and on the third day, He will rise.”

LUKE 18:33

“And he said to them, ‘O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into His glory?’ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”

LUKE 24:25 - 27

“Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

LUKE 24:44

Is this why you have lost sight of Jesus?
Are the sorrows that you have encountered clouding the hope of resurrection?

Have you lost sight of Jesus?

We all need to pray:
“Lord, let me recover my sight.”



- Spiritual sight grants clarity.

It makes the identity of Christ in the Scriptures comprehensible to the blind man. He is the Messiah!

- Spiritual sight produces audacity.

The sufferings of Christ make him bold to ask for help. He is a merciful Savior!

“The blind man will not be silent, and he cries out all the more shrilly...The beggar’s faith will not be throttled by the crowd that apparently cannot see who Jesus is. Like Zacchaeus, he will overcome obstacles and persist in shouting all the more to Jesus, son of David for help.”

DAVID GARLAND

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

HEBREWS 4:14 - 16

- Spiritual sight fosters transparency.

His spiritual sight makes the authority of Christ beautiful to the blind man. He is Lord

“And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought near to him. And when he came near, he asked him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’

He said, ‘**Lord**, let me recover my sight.’”

LUKE 18:40-41

- Spiritual sight produces doxology.

His spiritual sight ends with the man and all who know him glorifying God.
