

Scripture:

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go:
(Psalm 32:8, KJV)

Thought for Today

The written Word of God guides us. The Holy Spirit also leads and guides us. The Bible teaches that God wants to guide us With His eye. This requires sensitivity spiritual maturity to know his every intent and will for us.

As a child I knew what it was like to get "the look" from my mother or father. All they had to do was look at me a certain way and I got the message. If I acted up in front of company or in church, just "the look" in their eyes, as they glanced or glared toward me, gave me the guidance that I needed.

Do we need to hear a thundering voice from behind the pulpit? A biting prophetic utterance to correct our ways? Or are we able to read the emotion of God in our spirit? Are our hearts tender enough that His "eye" can guide us and convict our hearts of sin? When He glances our way, are we quick to say: "Oh, I can't do that. I can't go there, and I can't say that because it will displease the Lord." The glance of Jesus convicted Peter. The rooster crowing was the altar call and Peter wept his way to forgiveness.

God's is everywhere present, but He doesn't turn His face and His favor everywhere. That is why He tells us to seek His face (2 Chron. 7:14). He is present every time believers meet in a worship service (Matt. 18:20) but, He is personally present with me. "He walks with me and He talks with me, He tells me that I am His own."

When my daughter Andrea was a little girl, there were many times when she would crawl up on my lap, put her two hands on my cheeks and turn my head, so I would be looking her full in her face. There was a hunger and desire in her heart for my fullest attention – for intimacy with her Dad. Oh, how precious those times were. She would stare right into my eyes and giggle and hug me. It was father and daughter time! How long has it been since you had that same hunger and desire, to crawl up close to your heavenly Father, look full in His wonderful face, to see and sense his unfailing love for you?

The woman with the issue of blood turned the head of Jesus as He said, "Who touched me?" (Luke 8:45) Blind Bartimaeus turned the head of Jesus when he cried, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:38) The hunger in the heart of Zacchaeus to see the Lord, caused Jesus to "look up" and see him in the sycamore tree (Luke 19:1-5). Hunger and thirst for God will always turn His head toward us. Intimacy with Him, that is what God desires. His face should be our focus.

The Israelites referred to the manifest presence of God as the “shekinah” glory of God. When David began to talk about bringing the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem, he wasn’t attracted to the gold-covered box with the artifacts inside it. He was interested in the blue flame that hovered between the outstretched wings of the cherubim on top of the ark. This was what he wanted, because there was something about that flame that signified that God Himself was present. Wherever that glory or manifested presence of God went, there was victory, power, and blessing. Intimacy will bring about “blessing”, but the pursuit of “blessing” won’t always bring about intimacy.

What we cry for is a restoration of the manifested presence of God. When Moses was exposed to the glory of God, the residue of that glory caused his face to shine, so much that the people said, “Moses, you must cover your face. We can’t bear to look at you (Ex. 34:29-35). Whatever or whoever is exposed to the manifested presence of God, begins to absorb the very glory of God.

Psalm 104:15 speaks of “oil to make your face to shine.” The anointing of the Holy Spirit will help us preach, sing, pray and live better. He will make our face to shine forth the indwelling presence of Jesus. .

Have you looked full in His face lately? He promised, “I will guide thee with mine eye.” To be guided by His eye, you must be up close to His face.

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.”

Prayer

“Dear heavenly Father: Help me to look full in your wonderful face and away from the cares of life. Hold me close beside You. Let me sense Your love for me. Guide me with Your eye. Amen.”



Meet the Author

Paul D. Gibbon and his wife Joan pastored for 36 years with the Pentecostal Assemblies of NL. During this time, They ministered at Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, Deer Lake, Evangel Pentecostal Tabernacle, Grand Falls, and Faith Pentecostal Tabernacle, Embree. He spent many years in Youth Ministry. Paul and Joan are now semi-retired. They continue to minister on weekends and special occasions as well as pulpit supply. They may be reached by e-mail at paulandjoan37@hotmail.com.