

“Get Your Eyes Off Of People”

John 21:15-22

There are many today that have “eye-trouble.” Our eyes are extremely important. Satan referred to the “eyes” in connection to brokering sin and wisdom – **Gen. 3:5** “For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.” If Christians will keep their eyes on pleasing Jesus Christ, we will avoid some eye habits that can lead to painful eye troubles...

I. Staring... at the Unsaved /Un-Caring.

- A. **Looking at the Spiritually Blind** – The unsaved are blinded: **II Cor. 4:4** “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”
- B. **Hiding behind Hypocrites**
 - 1. We might be blinded by someone very close
 - a. Failure of a spouse
 - b. Failure of a friend, neighbor, close worker – get over it! ***Look past them to Jesus.***
 - 2. We’re not accountable for the sins of others – **Ezekiel 18:20** “The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”

II. Squinting... from a Calloused Christian = Christian Cataracts – (*A clouding of the eye*)

- A. **Some Christians are Cruel** – constant gossip, and gouging
- B. **Some Christians are Careless** – never speak to you, overlook you, and forget the power of impressions
- C. **Some Christians are Caustic** – (Corrosive and biting trenchant; cutting – sarcastic. Their conduct causes an intense emotion of burning or a stinging sensation.)
 - 1. Bitterness has replaced blessing for many wounded believers
 - 2. Have others failed you? Been injured / disappointed by others – **V. 22** “What is that to thee?”

III. V. 20 – Spying... on Someone’s Talents or Positions – “What about them?” (Comparing

- what we do with what they do). “Lord, I’m doing this... what about them?” **VIP:** The Lord is always watching ME... **Psalm 34:15** “The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.” **Psalm 25:15** “Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.”
- A. **Are we Jealous?** Abilities, success, more finances, limelight, speaking abilities? *2 timeless truths...*
 - 1. God often chooses those who think they have little to offer.
 - 2. God also chooses those who others think they have little to offer.
 - B. **Are We Following Jesus?** Follow thou Me – Get and keep your eyes on Me. **I Cor. 2:9** “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”