WEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

I Can See Clearly Now.

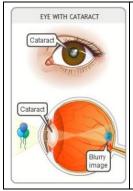
I just had cataract surgery. "By age 65, more than 90 percent of people in the United States will develop cataracts. Cataracts occur when the lens in your eye becomes cloudy from natural proteins that build up over time. As the condition progresses, the clouded lens allows less light to pass through your eye, creating blurry vision."¹ If left untreated, cataracts will eventually cause total blindness "Cataract surgery involves removing the clouded lens and replacing it with a clear artificial lens. The artificial lens, called an intraocular lens, is positioned in the same place as your natural lens. It remains a permanent part of your eye."² It is amazing that I can see clearly now. Whites are no longer yellow. I can see my computer screen without 150 % enlargement. I can drive at night. Wow.

The Apostle Paul was blind before his conversion. He could physically see but he was spiritually blind. "At age thirteen Saul was sent to Judea to learn from a rabbi named Gamaliel, Saul went on to become a lawyer, and all signs pointed to his becoming a member of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish Supreme Court of 71 men who ruled over Jewish life and religion. Saul was zealous for his faith, and this faith did not allow for compromise. It is this zeal that led Saul down the path of religious extremism. He was present for Stephen's stoning and death; he held the garments of those who did the stoning After Stephen's death, "a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem" Saul became determined to eradicate Christian. He was ruthless in his pursuit as he believed he was acting in the name of God."³

The story in Acts 9:1–22, recounts Paul's meeting with Jesus on the road from Jerusalem to Damascus, where he was to bring Christians back to Jerusalem for imprisonment. On the road, Saul was caught in a bright light from heaven that caused him to fall face down on the ground. He heard the words, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" He replied, "Who are you Lord?" The voiced answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." As instructed by Jesus, Saul was to continue to Damascus to make contact with a man named Ananias. The light of the Lord blinded Saul, so his companions had to lead him there. Ananias followed the Lord's instructions and found Saul, on whom he laid hands, and told him of his vision from Jesus. Through prayer, Saul received the Holy Spirit, regained his sight, and was baptized. Both Saul's physical and spiritual eyes were opened and he could see clearly. With Jesus, he then became Apostle Paul.

So many today have both physical and spiritual vision problems. Thanks to modern advancements vision problems like mine are being corrected. But sadly, spiritual vision is getting worse and people do not see it. I took an eye test to realize that I had a seeing problem. Here is an "I" test to determine your spiritual vision.

I believe in God? I pray to God? I know God answers my prayers? I know God loves me? I believe in Heaven? I believe in Hell? I know I am a sinner? I know for sure where I am going when I die? I know my purpose in life? I have that peace which passes all understanding? I have joy during times of trouble? I love my neighbor as myself? I do good to my enemies? I am known by my coworkers as a loving Christ follower? I am excited about reading the Bible? I prefer to fellowship with other believers? I understand who Jesus Christ was and what He did for me? I accepted Christ as my Savior? I yield to His Holy Spirit to guide me? I may not always understand God's way but I will trust and obey?



Charles Stambaugh

How did you do with the 20 "I" questions? I will be the first to admit that I do not have 20/20 vision with God. I need to keep removing the sin from my focus and to put on His Son's glasses.

"For now, we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." I Cor 13:12



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. Listen here.

1eyecentersurgeons.com/the-facts-on-cataracts/

2mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cataracts/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20353795 3gotquestions.org/life-Paul.html

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