

Seeing **by** Believing

2 **Corinthians 5:7** ... we walk by faith, not by sight.

Our faith **IS** our sight

2 Kings 6

8 Now the king of Aram was at war against Israel.

After consulting with his servants, he said, "My camp will be in such and such a place."

9 Then the man of God sent word to the king of Israel:

"Be careful passing by this place, for the Arameans are going down there."

2 Kings 6

10 So the king of Israel sent word to the place the man of God had pointed out. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places.

11 For this reason the king of Aram became enraged and called his servants to demand of them,

“Tell me, which one of us is on the side of the king of Israel?”

2 Kings 6

12 But one of his servants replied, "No one, my lord the king.

For Elisha, the prophet in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom."

13 So the king said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send men to capture him."

On receiving the report, "Elisha is in Dothan,"

14 the king of Aram sent horses, chariots, and a great army.

2 Kings 6

They went there by night and surrounded the city.

15 When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early in the morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. So he asked Elisha, "Oh, my master, what are we to do?"

16 "Do not be afraid," Elisha answered, "for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

2 Kings 6

17 Then Elisha prayed, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see."

And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Kings 6

18 As the Arameans came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD,

“Please strike these people with blindness.”

So He struck them with blindness, according to the word of Elisha.

19 And Elisha told them, “This is not the way, and this is not the city.

Follow me, and I will take you to the man you are seeking.”

And he led them to Samaria.

2 Kings 6

20 When they had entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O LORD, open the eyes of these men that they may see."

Then the LORD opened their eyes, and they looked around and discovered that they were in Samaria.

21 And when the king of Israel saw them, he asked Elisha, "My father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?"

2 Kings 6

22 "Do not kill them," he replied.

"Would you kill those you have captured with your own sword or bow?

Set food and water before them, that they may eat and drink and then return to their master."

23 So the king prepared a great feast for them, and after they had finished eating and drinking, he sent them away, and they returned to their master. And the Aramean raiders did not come into the land of Israel again.

Seeing **by** Believing

1. **Throughout the Bible, the metaphor of sight/blindness is used for how well one “sees” the things of God.**

Matthew 15

14 Disregard them! They are **blind** guides.”

Matthew 23:16 “Woe to you, **blind** guides!

17 You **blind** fools!

19 You **blind** men!

24 You **blind** guides!

26 **Blind** Pharisee!

John 9:39 ...”For judgment I have come into this world, so that the **blind** may **see** and those who **see** may become **blind**.”

Matthew 6

22 The eye is the lamp of the body.

**If your eyes are good,
your whole body will be full of light.**

**23 But if your eyes are bad,
your whole body will be full of darkness.**

**If then the light within you is darkness, how
great is that darkness!**

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Seeing **by** Believing

1. **Throughout the Bible, the metaphor of sight/blindness is used for how well one “sees” the things of God.**

2. **Sight/blindness is controlled by God.**

Luke 24

44 Jesus said to them, "These are the words I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

45 Then **He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.**

Ephesians 1

15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

16 I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, **may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation** in your knowledge of Him.

Ephesians 1

18 I ask that the **eyes of your heart may be enlightened**, so that you may know the hope of His calling, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints,

19 and the surpassing greatness of His power to us who believe.

Seeing **by** Believing

1. **Throughout the Bible, the metaphor of sight/blindness is used for how well one “sees” the things of God.**

2. **Sight/blindness is controlled by God.**

3. **Though God controls revelation, He commands us to make every effort to receive and believe it.**

2 Peter 1

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4 Through these He has given us His precious and magnificent promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, now that you have escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

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2 Peter 1

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.

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8 For if you possess these qualities and continue to grow in them, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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1. **Throughout the Bible, the metaphor of sight/blindness is used for how well one “sees” the things of God.**

2. **Sight/blindness is controlled by God.**

3. **Though God controls revelation, He commands us to make every effort to receive and believe it.**

4. **When we know God’s truth, the same thing happens to us that happened to Elisha’s servant.**

Improving Our Sight

What is your “sight” plan for 2022?

Bible reading?

- Bible reading plans

Bible study?

- Systematic studies

What does the Bible say about _____?

- the Holy Spirit?**
- prayer?**
- the promises of God?**
- the Trinity?**
- the sovereignty of God?**

Improving Our Sight

What is your “sight” plan for 2022?

Bible reading

- Bible reading plans

Bible study

- Systematic studies
- Word studies

Books

- Books
- Catechisms
- Writings from other church eras

Seeing **by** Believing

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Our faith **IS our sight**