

## A THOUGHT

Eric Reynolds

I never noticed the connection between Gabriel's statement to Mary and how we become sons of God:

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

Watch how this works for us:

John 1:12-13 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

How?

John 3:3-6 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ... Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit

Galatians 3:26-27 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.. -

### The elements of our worship, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7

## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00



- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

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## THE HEAVENS DECLARE!

Michael Pickford

"The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork." –Psalm 19:1.

What an amazing statement. Profound! When considering all of the beauty around us, as well as the perfect design and exact order that exists, one would have to kiss his brains goodbye to be an atheist. You read that right. Look at the proof!

Someone says that believing in God defies the intellect. Nonsense! If the earth were just a fraction closer to the sun, or if the earth were just a fraction larger, we'd burn up! If the earth were just a fraction further away from the sun, or if the earth were just a fraction smaller, we'd freeze to death! The earth, the sun, the planets, and the stars are all in sync in their rotations, with the "specs" being perfect. Change one thing slightly and we're doomed. How can any intellectual person say that all of this happened "by blind chance?"

Our generation isn't the first that professed to be wise by denying God when the evidence of His existence is all around us. Read Romans 1:18-24!

If I were to ask a class full of people in Middle Tennessee how many of them had been to Russia, perhaps one person would raise their hand. If I were to ask the same class how many of them believe Russia exist, every hand would go up. Why? Have they seen, heard, tasted, felt, or smelled Russia? No! But they've heard stories and seen pictures. Perhaps they've even spoken to people who'd been to Russia. They have evidence! One would think them fools if they were to deny Russia's existence in light of the evidence. Yet, so many foolishly deny God's existence when the evidence around them in creation is so abundant, and speaks so forcefully and eloquently.

No wonder the Bible says, "The fool has said in his heart, There is no God." –Psalm 14:1. 🔍

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# Daily Bible Study

by Michael Pickford

**This Week's Theme: Mind Your Eyes**

**Weekly Memory Verse: Job 31:1**

**Introduction:** If we have vision, it's because God has blessed us with it, However, God expects us to be responsible with our eyes. There are many things in this world that we should strive to avoid with our eyes, and, there are many things that we must look upon regularly; God's word, for example, "Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from your law" (Psalm 119:18). We should use our eyes to read and study God's word on a daily basis (Acts 17:11). This week, let's spend some time each day considering some responsible and irresponsible uses of our eyes.

## **Monday: Beware of the lust of the eyes.**

1. Job 31:1: Was Job speaking here of merely looking at a woman? What type of looking do you think he had in mind?
2. Matthew 5:27-30: Is it ok to lust after a woman as long as you don't follow through with the lust? Can you think of some avenues by which Satan tempts us in this regard today?
3. 1 John 2:16, 17: The lust of the eyes is not of Whom? In verse 17, what two things are said to be passing away?

## **Tuesday: Beware of the green-eyed monster of envy.**

1. Define envy:
2. 1 Samuel 18:6-11: What does it mean that Saul "eyed" David? What did this lead Saul to want to do to David?
3. Mark 15:10: According to this passage, why did the Jews hand Jesus over to be crucified?
4. 1 Corinthians 13:4: Love does not do what? Can you think of some ways that Christians today might become guilty of envy?

## **Wednesday: Beware of the Covetous eye.**

1. Matthew 6:19-24: the "Bad" or "Unhealthy" eye, spiritually speaking, leads to spiritually distorted vision in which we see temporary material things as more valuable than eternal spiritual things. Where did Jesus say we must lay up our treasures? What did Jesus say it was impossible to do?
2. 1 Timothy 6:6-10: What did Paul offer as the cure for covetousness?

## **Thursday: Be careful with your entertainment.**

1. Psalm 101:3-4: What would David not set before his eyes? What did he hate? By contrast, do we love certain TV programs and movies that contain wicked things? Read verse 4 again. What can viewing these things on a regular basis lead to?

2. Romans 12:9: How might this verse apply to the things we chose to entertain ourselves with?
3. Proverbs 4:23: The idea behind the "keep" here is to "Guard." How could this apply to our entertainment choices?

## **Friday: Set your eyes on heaven.**

1. Colossians 3:1-3: What should we seek? Where should our minds be set?
2. Staying focused on our heavenly home can prompt us to do many things. List some of these things from the following verses:
  - a. Revelation 14:13
  - b. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
3. Which of these things can we do in order to help keep our eyes focused on heaven?:
  - a. Read the Bible daily (Acts 17:11)
  - b. Pray regularly (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
  - c. Attend worship services (Hebrews 10:25)
  - d. Serve others (Galatians 6:9-10)
  - e. All of the above.

### **DUTY LIST...**

#### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell  
Reading: Deuteronomy 33:27-29
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:
  - Lead.....John Nelson
  - Serve.....Kenny Johnson
  - Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

#### **SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table.....Michael Pickford

#### **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

**Thank You For Serving!**

### **GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION**

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16;  
Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

***Obey Today!***

***Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!***

