



Singleness Of Focus On Light

“The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light” (Matthew 6:22)

VCM-SOTM28

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“The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6:22-23).

We move in the direction we look, therefore reaching the correct destination depends on where we focus our look. Driving accidents are common where drivers do not focus their look on where they are going.

It is sometimes said that if the devil wants to destroy a person, he gives him/her a double vision. This is well illustrated in the story in I King 20:39-40 “And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver. 40 And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the king of Israel said unto him, So shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it”. The king earned this judgement simply because he got distracted by other ‘visions’ of his and failed to focus on God’s ‘vision’ for him.

Jesus knew that His mission in life was “to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). He protected the fulfilment of that purpose by avoiding the distraction of becoming an earthly king “When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone” (John 6:15).

To succeed in our mission and ministry, we must come to the point of commitment to that “one thing” that matters most in time and eternity - “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: **but this one thing I do**, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14).

“... If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6:23).

What is the focus of your life? And how aligned are they to God’s plan / purpose for you?

In our text Jesus used the symbol of Eye, light and darkness to speak to us about the importance of singleness of focus for achieving success in life. It is rightly said that the eye is the window to the soul. It is with the eye that we see and read things that has the potential to affect our thinking, mind, decisions, actions and ultimately behaviours / character, which in turn determines our destiny.

Light and darkness symbolise vision or the lack of it. The clarity of vision depends on the singleness of focus on light. When vision becomes blurred, it slows down understanding, produce confusion and hinder right decision / profitable action. Where the light becomes darkness then there is no vision, no decision, no action. The subject becomes tied down, like a prisoner, in a state of damage and destruction. It is for this purpose that Jesus exclaimed “If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” (vs 23)

It is important to note that what brings about the darkness is determined by what we set the focus of our eyes on - “But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness” (vs 23). What you constantly look at, watch or read will affect your worldview, beliefs, philosophies and lifestyle. And if these are not aligned with the light of God, then you would have not only created but also surrounded yourself with a kingdom of darkness, leading ultimately unto hell fire.

May God help us to maintain the singleness of focus on the right thing, and a total commitment to realising it, that will propel us to significant success in this life and beyond, In Jesus’ name, Amen.