

April 30, 2014

Opening Our Blind Eyes

Psalm 146:8 (NASB), ***“The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises up those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous.”***

When I was in college I worked at a Christian camp for boys in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York for two summers. The first summer I worked there I was the counselor to a cabin full of boys from the Bronx. For the most part these campers had never been upstate and had never camped, hiked, or fished. They were new to experiencing the great outdoors. I remember one night as we were asleep in our open air cabin one of the young boys came to me in the middle of the night and woke me up because he had to use the restroom. This was not a restroom in the sense that we think of. It was an outhouse and it was a ways back into the forest.

As we walked to the outhouse he said to me, “Man it is dark out here!” I realized later that he had probably never experienced such darkness. Growing up in the city where there is constant light even at night, he had never seen darkness like that. Fortunately we had a light by which we were able to see the trail, we were not blind to our surroundings and we made it safely there and safely back.

Most of the world though is like that young boy in that they are conditioned to the world they live in and they are blind to the truths of God’s Word and the Gospel. The Lord gives sight to the blind both physically and spiritually we learn here in Psalm 146:8.

In Matthew 9:27-30 we read the account of two blind men who were following Jesus and were crying out to Him, ***“Have mercy on us, Son of David!”*** Jesus asks them, ***“Do you believe that I am able to do this?”*** And they answer Him, ***“Yes, Lord.”*** Jesus then heals them by simply touching their eyes and saying, ***“It shall be done to you according to your faith.”***

In our world today it is very easy to lose sight of the importance of God in our lives. Many people are blind to the fact that they are sinners and that their sin separates them from God. They also then blind to the fact that only Jesus Christ can heal them of their spiritual blindness. There is no other way to salvation as John 14:6 makes abundantly clear when Jesus said: ***“I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”***

In Psalm 146:8 David writes that ***“The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises up those who are bowed down...”*** The word that is used here for ***“bowed”*** is translated from the Hebrew to mean “bend down.” The Lord can only heal us of our spiritual blindness though when we are humble. That is what is meant here by ***“bowed down.”*** The picture that we get here is of someone bowing down as they would to a King. We cannot come to Christ in true repentance if we are proud. We have to approach Him with a complete understanding of our blindness and our desperate need for Him and His forgiveness.

When the Lord restores our spiritual blindness through our humble and repentant heart we are then declared righteous by Him. The very last phrase of Psalm 146:8 says, ***“The LORD loves the righteous...”*** Psalm 11:7 says, ***“The LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face.”***

The Lord is righteous which means that He is without sin and completely pure and holy. Being righteous He loves that which is righteous as well which means that when we are unrepentant sinners we are outside of His love for us. Therefore we have no relationship with God whatsoever and He is under no obligation to have a relationship with us. Most people do not understand this and grope around in the darkness of their lives searching for truth and often times find falsehood instead.

The good news is though that God has remedied this situation through the death, burial and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. If you have never repented of your sins and believed in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord then I encourage you to do that today. If you don't really understand what this means but you know you are outside of fellowship with Him I want to invite you to contact me so that through God's Word I can help you understand what it means to be born again.