

E-votional 44

The Eye of the Lord

Psalm 33:18-19 (ESV),

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

Under the all-seeing eye of the Lord is certainly the best place to be. Well, one might say, aren't we all under the all-seeing eye of the Lord? The answer can be both yes as well as no in this case. The answer of yes, while God can surely see everything and nothing can actually be hidden for His sight. It is also a no in relation to the specific context here.

The context here speaks of the eye of the Lord as an intentional placement, whereby, the Lord intentionally sets His gaze in a very specific direction. Therefore, and in correlation with verse 18, the eye of the Lord is intently placed on those who fear Him and on those who hope in His steadfast love. In other words, those who expect His goodness and kindness. Now, where did I pull this from?

Well, there are really two definitions at work here. The first one is the word hope, which means to wait or await. This is also referred to as waiting expectantly. The next definition is steadfast love, which speaks of the Lord's goodness and kindness.

The word hope and the definition thereof can be found here https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3176.htm

The word steadfast love and the definition thereof can be found here https://biblehub.com/hebrew/2617.htm

Now, while the Lord certainly sends rain on the just as well as the unjust (Matthew 5:45), there is a level of favor that seems to fall on those who simply

trust Him (Psalm 33:21). This trust is evidenced in those who also simply expect His goodness and kindness.

The people of God who then look to the Lord in exultant expectation find themselves full of radiant joy as He makes their hearts glad and filled with faith. God really does reward those that diligently seek Him in this way.

I am reminded of the many stories all through the Bible of people who simply expected God to move in His goodness and faithfulness and then by the fear of the Lord awaited is timing. All the while they were eagerly hammering the throne of God with prayer until such a blessing came down.

This, of course, reminds me of Jacob in Genesis 32:24-26 (ESV),

And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

Jacob wrestled with expectation and desperation, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

Sometimes we get so weary in our spirit and also flesh that we just lose the strength to pray all the way through to a major breakthrough. But take heart because the Lord has His eye on those who fear Him and also hope in His steadfast love.

This day and age it is really easy to just give up. No one is ready to go through the hard stuff anymore. This passage today gives us new strength. We must not let go until we receive from Him of His goodness in full measure.

Father forgive us for our own weariness. We realize that You are not like us and have no reason for weariness in You. In fact, You are all-powerful. Thank You for this, because we are limited. But in You all things are possible. Give us this diligence to really press into You in ways that we may have not in the past so that we can never let go as You have never let go of us. Also, Lord, there are things that we have failed to pray for as intently as we should have. Weariness grips us so close at times while at other times it is a faint memory. Nevertheless, we come to You to fashion in us a diligent heart that takes You at Your word and prays in such a way to receive of Your goodness at all times.

