

The Eye- the Lamp of the Body
(Luke 11: 33-35)

Your eye is the lamp of the body; when your eye is good, your whole body is also full of light; but when it is bad, your body is also full of darkness; take care then that the light in you is not darkness (Luke 11:34).

The glass is half full, or it is half empty; it all depends on who is looking at it. How can it be that out of the one common thing several opinions arise? YAHSHUA answers this way: "When your eye is good, your whole body is also full of light; but when it is bad, your whole body is also full of darkness". The eye is the body's source of light; but it is with the heart that the eye perceives and determines an opinion. The eye seems to be the most important part of the outside body's function. When Eve, controlled by the lust of the eye, saw the prohibited fruit, she perceived for the first time it to be good to eat. The Lust of the eye had blinded her and distorted its perception; no longer had what YAHWEH commanded made any difference. Satan had darkened her heart. We see with the eye, but we perceive with the understanding of the heart. If our heart is right with our Lord, everything will be perceived in the measure of the light we receive from Him through faith. Solomon warned us to guard our heart above all, for it is a source of life.

The eye silently expresses emotions – happiness, anger, sadness, fear, anxiety, as it perceives deeply into something. It expresses feelings in the soul, which is the intellect, the emotion and will of men. YAHSHUA said, if the eye is good, the whole body is also full of light. Here we see that the eye is connected with the inner soul. It expresses what is inside of man. In the inner purity, the eye sparks light; but in its inner wickedness, the eye expresses darkness. When the eye perceives with destructive criticism, it is because it is full of envy and jealousy and pride; when it perceives with compassion and understanding and love, it perceives with the heart of YAHSHUA.

In the wickedness of the heart the eyes of the Jewish people perceived YAHSHUA'S works of miracles as if they were under the influence of demons, when He had driven out a dumb spirit from a man. This caused them to marvel at it, because this was the sign that showed YAHSHUA to be the Messiah, but in their spiritual blindness they demanded a sign from Him from heaven. Without a doubt, their inner being was so full of darkness that they could not perceive the message in the miracles that YAHSHUA performed. This is what YAHSHUA had to say about them: This present generation is a wicked one; it seeks and demands a sign (miracle), but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah (Luke 11: 29). That generation witnessed greatest miracles of all times: the blind receiving sight, the lame walking, the dead being raised to life; yet they still asked for miracles that proved YAHSHUA to be the Messiah. They fulfilled what Isaiah had foretold many years previously: You have seen many things, but you do not observe or apprehend their true meaning (Isaiah 42: 20a). Unbelief veiled their hearts with darkness, so that there was no light in their eyes to perceive the truth that would have set them free. They perished in unbelief.

The Word of our Lord says, It is because of the Lord's mercy and loving-kindness that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not; they are new every morning; great and abundant is Your faithfulness (Lam. 3:22-23). We must perceive that YAHWEH'S faithfulness is not limited only to the past; He is the same today as He was yesterday. He still heals today; He still saves and sets man free; they need only to recognize and perceive their bondage. It is good to wake up every morning, applying His words in our heart, to perceive with eye full of light, and experience the reality of every day miracles that so often go unnoticed because of our unbelief and darkness of heart. We might not be asking verbally for a sign, but we show it with our attitude, when we see but do not perceive the goodness of our Lord toward us daily and we keep asking for things which He has already given us. An example of it is when we ask YAHWEH to bless us when He said in His word that He has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1: 3); we ask for faith when He has given us each a degree of faith (Rom. 12:3,6); we walk in fear of the future, when He said that He will never leave us, neither forsake us (John 14: 18; Matt. 28: 20).

What kind of darkness is taking over our heart and blinding our eye, so that we cannot perceive the faithfulness of our Lord and the manifestation of His presence with us? Religious tradition is the chain that keeps the believer tied to its way, holding him hostage and blinded to the work of the Holy Spirit. It was the problem in YAHSUA'S day and remains with us today. We see, but we do not perceive the depth of YAHWEH'S love for us. We read His word, but we do not digest it for it to make a difference in us. Paul prayed that the eyes of the heart the believers in Ephesus would be flooded with light, so that they could know and understand the hope to which YAHWEH had called them and how rich is His glorious inheritance in the saints (Ephesians 1:18). Blinded by traditions, we walk as if we were spiritually orphans, destitute from the privileges of our inheritance in Christ our Lord. We do not see people the way YAHWEH sees them; many times we perceive them with critical and judgmental eye from the darkness of our inner being. YAHSUA said, Be careful, therefore, that the light that is in you is not darkness; if then your entire body is illuminated, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its bright rays gives you light (Luke 11:35-36). We will know definitely if we are entirely illuminated by the beams that irradiate forth the glory of our Lord, through our behavior and words. As Paul said, We all, with unveiled faces, are reflecting the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory (II Cor. 3:18). The Holy Spirit is constantly molding us into the image of YAHSUA from one degree of glory to another. This process of sanctification is a continuous process until He calls us home.

"As the man thinks in his heart so he is"; the eye reveals what is in the heart of men. The Lord said that the heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly perverse and corrupt and severely, mortally sick! Who can know it [perceive, understand, be acquainted with his own heart and mind]? (Jeremiah 17: 9). The heart of men is desperately in need of a spiritual cleansing. Only by the blood of YAHSUA shed on the cross it can be purified. The contrite and broken heart the Lord will not despise (Psalm 51:17b). Let us (then) test and examine our ways, and let us return to the Lord! Let us lift up our hearts and our hands to YAHWEH in heaven (Lam. 3:40-41) and repent of our evil ways. The light in our eye will radiate love, peace,

compassion, understanding only when the heart is contrite and forgiven under the blood of our Savior, YAHSHUA.

The light of the eye comes from the heart that is in fellowship with YAHSHUA'S heart. Apart from Him there is only darkness in men. YAHSHUA'S light has shown our heart with love and truth, so that our eye would shine His light to the world. When our light shines through good deeds it brings glory to YAHWEH, for the world will recognize where the light came from. So keep and guard your heart with all vigilance, and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life; put away from you false and dishonest speech, and willful and contrary talk put away from you; let your eyes look right on with fixed purpose and let your gaze be straight before you (Prov. 4:23-25). From the heart the mouth speaks; from the heart the eye perceives; from the heart the emotions are expressed. Turn your heart to YAHSHUA and let His light shine into your heart and your eye will be pure and sound before Him.