

THE DANGEROUS LENS

The lens you **CHOOSE** will determine **HOW you'll be** - Matt 6:22-23 - 22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. **IF your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light.** 23 But **IF your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness.** If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

God warned us of the threats of this dangerous lens - Prov 14:12 & Prov 16:25 - 25 There is a **WAY THAT SEEMS RIGHT to a man**, but in the end it leads to death.

Sight can make me question God, while faith keeps me in line with God -Prov 23:17 **DO NOT LET** your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the Lord.

***Human sight can deceptively discourage and even more disturbingly, can deceptively encourage us. The situations that seem bad can be exactly what's needed, while situations that may seem good could be disastrous.**

It all started here...

Gen 2:15-17 - 15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the **Lord God commanded the man**, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but **you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil**, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Gen 3:6-7 -6 **WHEN THE WOMAN SAW** that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then **the eyes of both of them were opened**, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Man has continually done what he sees as being best -Judg 17:6 & Judg 21:25 - In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was **RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES.** ASV

There are two corrupt ingredients that influence how we see things - Phil 2:3 **DO NOTHING OUT OF selfish ambition or vain conceit**, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

WHY ARE WE TRYING TO FIGURE WHAT IS RIGHT, WHEN WE HAVE THE ANSWER TO WHAT IS RIGHT? - John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am **THE way** and **THE truth** and **THE life**. No one comes to the Father except through me.

We literally choose between life and death when we choose how we see - 2 Cor 5:7 We **LIVE by faith, NOT by sight.**

Faith is not based on what you see but by what HE says - Heb 11:1 - Now FAITH is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. *I. e. When I discipline my children it's not **FOR results** it's **BY faith**

How to choose the right lens and reject the wrong

God's Word is "THE WAY" to see clearly and illuminates the route –

Ps 19:7-9 - 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, **reviving the soul.** The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. 8 The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. 9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous.

PS 119:105 your **WORD** is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

*** GOD HASN'T GIVEN A BOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS TO RESTRICT US...HE'S GIVEN A BOOK OF INSTRUCTION TO PROTECT US.**

Adjust your entire life purpose - Gal 5:16-17 - 16 So I say, **LIVE BY THE SPIRIT**, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

TOTALLY trust God, NEVER trust self! - Prov 3:5-8 - 5 **TRUST IN THE LORD** with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. 8 This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

Pursue HIS answer for everything as if your life depends on it...because your life does depend on it - Prov 2:1-5 -My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, 2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, 3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 THEN **you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.**

Doesn't matter how you see it, God is checking your purpose - Prov 16:2 All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but **motives are weighed by the Lord**