

EYES OF FAITH

*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see.*

Hebrews 11:1

I love this verse! Even though I have read it a thousand times, it seems to impact my life in new ways. As I read it this week I began to see how so much potential comes from how we view things. I so often forget how the Lord sees things.

One of the most powerful recourses you have is the way you see through your eyes of faith. Your mind is an amazing thing. It talks to you and it sees pictures or images of what you are thinking. It recalls memories almost immediately (it does get a little slower at my age) and sees a picture or perception related to the thought. In this realm of thought and vision there are usually two underlying voices competing for attention: faith and doubt. Both voices need to be listened to. If you just try to overlook what doubt is saying it like throwing a blanket over a fire and walking away. Did it go out? The fire of doubt must be put out and that is done by exercising our faith. That is how faith is built.

A burglar breaks into a house and is looking around with his flashlight. He suddenly hears a voice say, "Jesus is watching." He turns around and sees a parrot. "Did you say that?" he asks. "Yup," replies the parrot, "Just trying to warn you." "Why would you do that?" asks the burglar. "Because my name is Moses!" "What kind of people would name their parrot Moses?" the burglar asks. "The same people who named their 150 lb. rottweiler Jesus!"

Wow! When I read that joke I laugh and then stopped to think for a moment. I see that rottweiler in my mind's eye and think "Yikes, somebody is going to be that dog's lunch!" My vision creates a picture that makes me laugh and then a picture that makes me want to run. Vision is a projection of the soul. It can stop you or encourage you onward. Faith and doubt are mood scripts. They write the story of how you are going to feel. They are the mental picture frame of your life and they determine how you grow spiritually.

God is a seed sower (II Corinthians 9:10). The seed of God is his word (Luke 8:11). The great thing about the word or the seed of God is that it cannot perish and is incorruptible (I Peter 1:23). The challenging part of the seed or word of God is that it will only grow to become or produce what was intended by the application of faith; it is the certainty of things hoped for. Paul learned to live his life based on faith. He said, "We live by faith not by sight" (II Corinthians 5:7). Faith sees the Word of God. Faith fosters a vision of that word being fulfilled. Faith creates the framework that surrounds the picture God has of you. Faith creates the mood that you live with and your spiritual mentality. In the same way we see things with our natural eyes, the bible teaches us to see with our spiritual eyes things that foster the seed of God, which is His word. One of the most powerful recourses you have in your life is your faith. Let's battle doubt this week and give faith a chance! "This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith" (John 5:4).