God sees through these fig-leaves

By Thomas Watson, from His book "Body of Divinity"

"My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from Me, nor is their sin concealed from My eyes!" Jeremiah 16:17

If God is a God of infinite knowledge, then see the folly of hypocrisy. Hypocrites carry it fair with men, but care not how bad their hearts are—they live in secret sin. They say,

"How can God know? Does the Most High have knowledge?"

"What does God know? Can He judge through thick darkness?"

"God has forgotten, He hides His face-He will never see it!"

But "His understanding is infinite!"

He has a window to look into men's hearts!

He has a key to open up the heart.

"Your Father who sees in secret."

God sees in secret.

As a merchant enters debts in his book—so God has His debt-book in which He enters every sin!

The hypocrite thinks to disguise and juggle with God, but God will unmask him. "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing." "For they have done outrageous things... I know it and am a witness to it, declares the Lord." Jeremiah 29:23

The hypocrite hopes he shall color over his sin, and make it look very good. Absalom masks over his treason with the pretense of a religious vow. Judas cloaks his covetousness, with the pretense of "charity to the poor."

Jehu makes religion a cloak for his selfish design.

But God sees through these fig-leaves!

He who has an eye to see, will find a hand to punish!

Since God is infinite in knowledge, we should always feel as under His omniscient eye. "*I have set the Lord always before me*." The consideration of God's omniscience would be preventive of much sin. The eye of man will restrain from sin; and will not God's eyes much more?

"Will he even assault the queen right here in the palace, before my very eyes? the king roared." Esther 7:8. Will we sin when our Judge looks on?

Would men speak so vainly, if they considered God overheard them? What care would people have of their words—if they remembered that God heard, and His pen was writing everything down in Heaven?

Would they commit immorality—if they believed God was a spectator of their wickedness, and would punish them in Hell for it?

Would they defraud in their dealings, and use false weights—if they knew God saw them; and for making their weights lighter, would make their damnation heavier?

Is God omniscient, and His eye chiefly upon the heart? Then be sincere—be what you seem! "*The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.*" 1 Samuel 16:7

Men judge the heart, by the actions.

God judges the actions, by the heart!

Today is January 28, 2024

Sovereign Grace

Missionary Baptist Church

"Where the Truths of God's Word Have Been Taught for Sixty-Two Years" Since October 21, 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501 Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor (903) 490-3048 Pastor E-Mail: pastor.johnson@sgmbaptist.com Pastors Blog: sgmbcpastor.blogspot.com Church Web Site: wwwsgmbaptist.com Church Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/sgmbcpastor</u>

"Our Prayer List"

"Pray without ceasing."1 Thess. 5:17

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Ted O'Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Jerry Hughes, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family, Baby Titus Massey, Shane and Brook Sims, Ricky Bennett, Nick, Madison, and Baby Emory Patty, Bill Gossett, and Russell York.

"Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works"

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.

"A Message from Pastor Johnson"

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof..." 1st Peter 5:2

"Do we give enough time to God?"

And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith. Ecclesiastes 1:13

The writer of this book is Solomon who is identified as "the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem" in verse 1. King Solomon was a great man; I believe spiritually he would have been a very strong servant of God because God said he was. "And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. (30) And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt." 1 Kings 4:29 But with all this wisdom and understanding he continually gave his heart to search out by wisdom the thing God did on the earth. Imagine the spiritual intelligence we could have if we gave our hearts to want to know everything about the workings of the Lord. Solomon also wrote in Ecclesiastes 7:25 "I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness:" To search out the wisdom of God in the events, not only in the good things but in the evil wickedness, foolishness, and madness in this world. Imagin if believers today attempted to follow Solomons lead here, and instead of worrying about things, instead of complaining about things, instead of losing their minds over things happening in this world, we simply remember that God is over all things, and God has promised us, "... that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 And in believing God and knowing that this is His promise to us, that everything in our life, everything happening on this earth, that every event, is under the ordained power of God. So, to us it is our obligated work, to give our hearts to enough study time in attempting to search out by wisdom God's purpose in doing these things. And once we get those answers, imagine how much more spiritually powerful we would be. Nothing just happens, everything is by a designed and ordained will of God, we just need to search out why He did it. Solomon also wrote these words, "I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him. (15) That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past." Ecclesiastes 3:14 - 15

A Message from Pastor Johnson, Continued

Can you we see what King Solomon saw? Can we understand what God is telling us through Solomon's writings, if not, we need to keep searching for the answers. Solomon went on to say these words, "And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there. (17) I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work." Ecclesiastes 3:16 - 17 Believer, do not worry about the wickedness, not even the wicked judges because God is the final Judge, and He has put all that judgment into the trusted hands of Jesus Christ, the Son of man. I cannot personally answer why things happen in this world, nor why God allows so much evil to reign in this world. However, I can tell you the answer to all your questions are in God's word and it is up to us to "gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven". Because it is our study time that makes us better Christians. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 Because it is through this study time that every Christian will grow and excel in understanding God, His ways, His doings, His will, and everything else in your life and in the happenings in this world. So, I will ask, do we all give enough time to God, do we seek to know His will and His doings in our own life and in the world that we live? If not, then we are missing such a blessing!

The Scriptural view of sin!

John Newton: "The more vile we are in our own eyes, the more precious Christ will be to us! Sin cannot be hated for itself, until we have seen the malignity of it in Christ's sufferings!"

J.C. Ryle: "Christ is never fully valued, until sin is clearly seen."

John Owen: "The seed of every sin, is in every heart! Christ's blood is the great sovereign remedy for sin-sick souls! I do not understand how a man can be a true believer, in whom sin is not the greatest burden, sorrow and trouble!"

1John 3:8 "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."