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Theme for 2019

'The God of Another Year, is a God of Wonderful and Amazing Grace. He is the God of Forgiveness and He is the God of Beginning Again.'

365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES!

"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."

Psalm 51:15 (ESV); Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV); Psalm 9:1-2 (NKJV)



This Week's Thought – September 22, 2019

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

<u>365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES</u>—Just as our physical eyesight requires dilation to diagnose its current condition and to forecast any potential issues, so our spiritual eyesight requires check-ups of divine dilation to discern its health. Typically, eye drops are administered and within 15-30 minutes the pupil's size increases, allowing the doctor to accurately view the entire optic nerve and retina. Dilated pupils expand light exposure and reveal any harmful issues like glaucoma or macular degeneration. Similarly, our spiritual eyes require examination from the Holy Spirit to uncover unhealthy perspectives.

Blurred or blinded spiritual eyesight only envisions a partial reality or none at all. Paul explains. Spiritual eyes fixed only on what is seen, are limited in their capacity to experience only what's temporary: heartaches, sin, shame and fear, while spiritual eyes fixed on what is unseen are able to perceive the eternal: hope, joy, peace and love. When the light of the gospel of Jesus shines into our soul through the eyes of faith, the Spirit exposes: our current spiritual condition, what may be looming, and what we look forward to in heaven. Dilated eyes of faith see the unseen.

"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)

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We cannot accurately diagnose our spiritual eyesight by ourselves. We need professionals skilled in this space, and we need experienced followers of Jesus to help us remove little specks of self-deception and large planks of lies that limit or block our spiritual perception. A spiritual eye exam is smart. Though it takes time and is uncomfortable, it is preventative medicine to deal with the devil's schemes. Unhealthy spiritual sight leads to unhealthy faith and fearful living.

Eternal love flows into a dilated faith and immerses the soul in the light of holiness, expunging sin and establishing peace and security. Dilation slows down time. We are stilled in the presence of perfection (The Most High God), who takes our imperfections and accomplishes His perfect will. Dilated eyes of faith wear the glasses of the gospel. Prescribed by God---they reveal Christ. We keep adjusting our spiritual eyesight, so we can see clearly what the Lord has in store for those who love Him.

"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived"—the things God has prepared for those who love him—these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God." (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).

On today, may the blessing of peace rest upon you...the blessing of joy abide within you...the blessing of success and favor surround you...the blessing of love flow out through you. May all the Blessings of the Lord be yours in abundance as you 'Encounter the Possibilities' this day will bring!!

Application: Our spiritual eyes require examination from the Holy Spirit to uncover unhealthy perspectives. Ask the Heavenly Father, to open your eyes of faith by the light of His love. **For unhealthy spiritual sight leads to unhealthy faith and fearful living.**

<u>Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:</u> "Lord, I pray that the eyes of my understanding will be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of Your calling, what are the riches of the glory of Your inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of Your power toward us who believe! (Ephesians 1:18,19) This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!"

Yours in Christ, Pastor King