

Psalm 119: Nurturing Passion For God
Ask God To Open Your Eyes
Psalm 119:17-24

Introduction

In today's passage the author tells us that he's facing a serious problem, so we can learn what to do when we face serious problems.

What problem did the author face?

Princes were plotting against him (v.21), probably about how to take his life (v.17). This would obviously be a huge problem. So what do you do when you face huge problems?

What does the author do when he faces this problem?

He recognizes that he's a sojourner, temporarily here on earth, on the way to heaven (v.19).

He asks God to solve his problem (vv.21-22)

He asks God to open his eyes so he can see wondrous things from the Bible (vv.18-19)

Sometimes when we read the Bible our eyes are open, but sometimes our eyes are closed. And when they are closed it takes God's power to open them.

What eyes is he talking about? The "eyes of our hearts" (Ephesians 1:16-18).

The eyes of our head SEE the truth; the eyes of our heart FEEL the truth.

The reason we can read truth about Jesus, and SEE the truth, but not FEEL the truth, is because sin has grown over the eyes of our hearts, clouding our ability to feel the truth of Jesus.

When you first trust Christ, he cuts away that sin and for the first time you not only see, but also feel the truth of Jesus.

But even though we are saved, we have sin remaining in us, and it keeps growing over the eyes of our hearts.

That's why we need to keep praying for God to enlighten the eyes of our hearts (Eph 1:18) and to open our eyes (Psa 119:18) — so we will feel the truth of Christ.

He takes time to meditate on God's Word (v.23)

He opens up God's Word, and prayerfully ponders it, lingers over it, thinks about it, and prays over it some more.

When we do this, asking God to open our eyes, we will have times when we deeply and powerfully feel the truth of Jesus Christ — his love, glory, power, sovereignty, and goodness.

This will deeply encourage us as we face problems.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What do you usually do when you face problems? Do you ask God to solve the problem? Why or why not?

Does it make sense to you that you have two sets of eyes, the eyes of your head that SEE the truth, and the eyes of your heart that FEEL the truth? Why or why not?

Do you agree that sin can blind the eyes of our hearts, so we can SEE the truth of Jesus Christ, but not FEEL the truth of Jesus Christ? Why or why not?

How long has it been since you have read God's Word, and deeply felt the truth? How often do you pray and ask God to open your eyes to see wondrous things from his Word? Could there be a connection?

Take time and pray for each other — that you will all have rich time meditating on God's Word this week — and that God opens your eyes to behold wondrous things from God's Word.

