

“I can see clearly now!”

[How do you react in unstable times]

Isaiah 42:16

“I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not”

Introduction

Just for a moment I want us to think of the infinitely glorious Jehovah God acting as a Guide to the blind!

* **What boundless boundaries does this imply!**

Even when a blind man knows the road, it is hard for him to traverse it but a road that he has not known is yet another story for his unguided feet.

We are by nature blind as to the way of salvation, and yet the Lord leads us into it and brings us to Himself, and then opens our eyes to see clearly.

* **As to the future, we are all blind and cannot see an hour before us; but the Lord Jesus will lead us even to our journey's end.**

* **Blessed be His name!**

Isaiah 42:16

“I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not”

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for the day.

[Abraham Lincoln, Leadership, Vol. 3, no. 1]

Give us clear vision that we may know where to stand and what to stand for, because unless we stand for something, we shall fall for anything.

[Peter Marshall in Mr. Jones, Meet The Master. Christianity Today, Vol. 34, no. 11]

Speaking on the significance of this year 2009, especially concerning the powerful significance of the season we are NOW in; we as individuals and as God's church must comply or participate within the spiritual atmosphere in that which we are placed... Ultimately, we are responsible for our growth in times such as these we can dry up and wither away or we can allow the very hand of the Lord to take us by a way that we know not.

2.

To some of you this season is going to be a time that is no different than any other time that you have endured in the past... for others this is a **NEW DAY - A NEW SEASON** – And for all of us, this year is going to contain twelve months filled with 365 days, 8760 hours, 525,600 minutes, and 31,536, 000 seconds. [How do you react in unstable times]

What are you going to do with the time that God has given you?

Isaiah 42:16

“I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not”

Today you make a conscious decision to excel in the kingdom of God and to allow the Lord to lead you.

* This is the year, the NOW SEASON that you can move out of the old and into the newness of God.

* This is the year, the NOW SEASON – God wants to open your eyes to the things of the spirit; He is calling us into humanity to show forth His Glory.

God’s Holy Spirit and His Kingdom are advancing; The Lord is leading and spiritual eyes are seeing with clarity

The number nine (tishah- tish-aw’):

Means “Judgment” - it means “finality” and it also births the idea of a “turn to the next”—or “transformation”

A call to Awaken: A Call to clear sight

In the first verses of the 42nd Chapter of Isaiah, God expels Himself to the prophet; God is speaking of the outpouring of His spirit upon all men: Gentiles alike...

* He is prophetically speaking to the Gentiles (that's us) and giving us a word of encouragement to be fulfilled in this modern day...

I want you to think about this – “To be fulfilled in this modern day”

3.

Isaiah 42:6 [NIV]

[6] “I the LORD have called thee in *righteousness*, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles”

Righteousness

"I the LORD, have called thee in *righteousness*"

Righteousness

Means to do right, be right, think right, breathe right, smell right, God Right etc... -

Matthew 6:33 (KJV)

[33] “But seek ye first the *kingdom of God* , and his *righteousness*; and all these things shall be added unto you”

This my friends is Security of the Father—the promise!

Isaiah 42: 6 [NIV]

"...I will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles."

In this text, God is speaking of a new promise

- * God is speaking of security into the life of the believer
- * God is saying that if you live in the pursuit of righteousness... I will be with you every step of the way...
- * "I will hold your hand, and I will protect you..."

This is the promise of God...

- * If you truly desire to have more of God
- * If you truly covet the gifts of the Spirit
- * If you truly want abundance in your life, You have to lay down your life, pick up your cross, and press forward into the high calling that God has on your life!

It all begins with your decision to make God, Lord of your life!

Isaiah 42:6 [NIV]

[6] “I the LORD have called thee in *righteousness*, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles”

Established and Kept

2 Thessalonians 3:3

“But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil”

- * Men are often as devoid of reason as of faith.
- * There are with us still "*unreasonable and even wicked men*"

There is no use in arguing with them or trying to be at peace with them: they are false at heart and deceitful in speech. Well, should we worry ourselves with them?

- * No, let us turn to the Lord, for He is faithful.
- * No, promise from His Word will ever be broken.
- * He is neither unreasonable in His demands upon us nor unfaithful to our claims upon Him.

We have a faithful God. Be this our joy.

- * He will establish us so that wicked men shall not cause our downfall, and He will keep us so that none of the evils that surrounds us shall really do us damage.
- * What a blessing for us that we need not contend with men but are allowed to shelter ourselves in the Lord Jesus, who is in truest sympathy with us.

The Lord will fulfill the purpose of His grace to us, His servants

- * Not all that men or devils can do can hinder us of *the divine protection and provision*.
- * This day let us pray the Lord to establish and keep us.

0. Romans 3:25 ”Whom God hath set forth to be a *propitiation* **through** **faith in his blood**, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God”

[*Forbearance* - meaning: Patient self-control – Restraint and Tolerance: Law the Action of refraining from exercising a legal right esp. enforcing the payment of a debt]

“God has set forth to be a propitiation...”

5.

Propitiation:

An action that is pleasing to God

An action with a Blessing attached to it

Refers to the Mercy Seat:

Used as the cover of the ark of the covenant in the Holy of Holies, which was sprinkled with the blood of the expiatory victim on the annual day of atonement.

(This rite signifying that the life of the people, the loss of which they had merited by their sins, was offered to God in the blood as the life of the victim, and that God by this ceremony was appeased and their sins expiated); hence the lid of expiation, the propitiatory.

0.1 John 2:2

“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world”

From the word Propitiate:

*** To win or regain the favor of God by doing something that pleases Him
Favorable / Gracious [To Stand in / To enter in / To sacrifice**

1 John 4:10

“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins”

Atonement:

Reconciliation through Jesus Christ

Unity / To Unite

Jesus Christ made atonement for man-kinds sin

Jesus paid the price by the shedding of His blood

The sacrificial lamb of God

Process:

A series of actions or steps taken in order to achieve a particular end

A set or a series of changes

As in the process of times

6.

Process

Latin: progression / Course

From the verb Procedure [One of the meanings – A Surgical Operation]

The number nine (tishah- tish-aw'):

Means “Judgment” - it means “finality” and it also births the idea of a “turn to the next”—or “transformation”

Transition / Transformation

Hebrews 9:16

“Like a will that takes effect when someone dies, the new covenant was put into action at Jesus' death. His death marked the *transition* from the old plan to the new one, canceling the old obligations and accompanying sins, and summoning the heirs to receive the eternal inheritance that was promised them. He brought *together* God and his people in this new way”

Only Salvation births God Clarity opens our eyes to really see

* We begin to see clearly and understand that by His leading we will learn to stay **in the love of God**

The evening before the crucifixion our Lord admonished us to - “**remain in my love**” (John 15:9)

Jude [KJ]

[17] But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

[18] How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

[19] These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.

[20] But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

[21] Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

7.

Jude repeats the same admonition, “keep yourselves in the love of God” (Jude 21) and then shows us how to do so.

A Eye Prescription – Helping us to see God Clearly

Jude 20–21

[20] “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

[21] Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life”

1. The inward look of edification

“Building yourselves up in your most holy faith” (Jude 20)

2. The upward look of supplication

“Praying in the Holy Spirit” (Jude 20)

3. The Healthy look for motivation

“Keep yourselves in the love of God” (Jude 20)

4. The forward look of anticipation

“Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life” (Jude 21).

Edification

Supplication

Motivation

Anticipation

* All of these words — **Building, Praying, Keeping, Looking** — should continually characterize our behavior.

* Hearing what the spirit says

* Hearing and overcoming