

*Is What You See
What You Do?*

Acts 26:12-19

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12 Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests,

13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

Acts 26:12-19 - continued

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

Seeing Is Doing

Study shows where brain transforms seeing into doing

MIT neuroscientists find posterior parietal cortex region is crucial to connecting perception to action.

David Orenstein | Picower Institute for Learning and Memory

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Ecclesiastes 1:8

All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

God Gave You Eyes To See

Proverbs 20:12

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them.

God Wants Us To Understand What We See

Mark 6:18

Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?

God Wants Us to Do

John 4:35b

...Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

I. Paul Only Needed One Vision

A. The vision is required

Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

B. The vision must be shared

1 Samuel 3:1

And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

II. Paul's Vision Came From The One True Source

A. From God In Heaven

John 12:21

The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.

B. Accepting more than one source is deadly

1 Kings 13:26

And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, It is the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.

III. Paul Only Had One Acceptable Option

A. He gained his sight back

Acts 9:12

And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

B. His life changed direction

Acts 26:20

But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

III. Paul Only Had One Acceptable Option

C. His path was guided to places he had never been before

Acts 16:9

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

D. He saw God's glory

2 Corinthians 12:4

How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
Save that Thou art-

Thou my best thought,
By day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom,
And Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
And Thou with me, Lord;

Thou my great Father,
I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling,
And I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not,
Nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance,
Now and always;

Thou and Thou only,
First in my heart,
High King of heaven,
My Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven,
My victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart,
Whatever befall,
Still be my Vision,
O Ruler of all.