

The Look of Faith

“Unto You I lift up my eyes, O You who dwell in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes look to the Lord our God....” (Psalm 123)

Progression has been made. There has been an ascending of the eye, from the oppressors and accusers, to the hills of the Creator, to the house of the Lord, and now to the Lord Himself!

There is gloriously beautiful and powerful imagery here.

Let us first consider the parties and their places. There are those of the earth who hold reins of power, the movers and shakers, winners. These know absolutely nothing of what is being said here. There are those, on the other hand, are those who are held in disdain and contempt. Servants, slaves. The lowest of status, power and privilege. Man’s domain and element is the earth, dust. Contrast that to God, our Lord, Creator and Owner. He is the highest in status and stature, privilege and power. Indeed, He is the Almighty. *All* might, power and dominion are in His Hand. His domain and element is the highest heaven. What an expanse is bridged by the look of a helpless soul to Almighty God!

Hands. How we think of them. What they are known for. They speak with signals, beckon, halt, restrain, they are used to emphasize, to point and guide. They *do* things, act, work, create, form. They punish, execute justice, hold the scepter of dominion and government. And they give, bestow, hold, cherish and keep. What might and bounty is then contemplated in the Hand of the Almighty!

Eyes. They are said to be the “mirror of the soul”, and indeed they are! Wondrously, mysteriously, they powerfully say and speak. Often no more than a look is necessary to communicate a message. In them is unmistakably seen love, hate, anger, joy, mischief, impudence, distrust, deceit, contempt, fear, pain, disappointment, grief, sorrow, confidence, trust, plea and entreaty.

Our attention is drawn now to praying eyes. This is the look of desperation and faith. Have we needs? Are we in desperate circumstances? To whom or what shall we look, we who are the lowest and weakest of servants? Why, we are to look to the Highest, the Mightiest. Indeed, He, Himself invites us: *“Look unto Me and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God and there is no other!”* (Is. 45:22) As slaves and servants have absolutely no recourse for the salvation, protection, provision and comforts, so we have none other but our God. Our expectation is singular. Our gaze is fixed on His merciful, plentiful, powerful Hand.

We pray for guidance, instruction, needs, blessing, but primarily, *mercy, deliverance, enabling power.* This look of faith, these fixed praying eyes, is constant, unchanging, enduring. How long? Until we obtain the mercies we seek.

- C. M.