

Look Unto Me

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Study Given by W.D. Frazee—January 15,

“Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I am God, and there is none else” Isaiah 45:22.

The wisdom to know God's will, the power to do His will, and the assurance that we are accepted in the beloved all come from looking to Jesus.

Who is talking in this verse? God is. He says so. He invites us to look to Him. What will happen? You will be saved.

“For Jacob My servant's sake, and Israel Mine elect, I
have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed
thee, though thou hast not known Me” Isaiah 45:4.

Only one man can be elected the president of the United States. Thank God you and I can be elected to something infinitely more valuable. It means chosen. Jesus says He has chosen us. Of course, we have to accept it, but God has taken the initiative. So I am thankful for the election given us in the Word of God. All can have a part in it. Jesus uses that expression a number of times. Speaking of the deception of the last days He says:

“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets,
and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that,
if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect”
Matthew 24:24.

Thank God, the elect won't be deceived. It is not because of some arbitrary decree on God's part. The elect are those who have chosen to accept that choosing. They are elect and precious to God. So our assurance is in that wonderful promise.

“Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness
and strength: even to Him shall men come; and all that
are incensed against Him shall be ashamed” Isaiah 45:24.

Are you the one this verse is talking about? Oh, I hope so. We receive not only the justification of being accounted righteous, but we receive the strength to do His will. Jesus, in giving us Himself, gives us everything. He give us all things that pertain to life and Godliness.

Notice how God uses the figure of reflected light and glory, and calls upon His people to be like the moon rising, and reflecting the glory of the Son of Righteousness:

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising” Isaiah 60:1-2.

Our light has come. Therefore we are to rise and shine. We cannot shine without Jesus. We shine only as we look to Him. Look unto Me, and be ye saved. Look unto Me and reflect the character of God. How do we see the light of the moon? Only as the moon reflects the light of the sun. I like the way it is put by the servant of the Lord:

“Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully” *Early Writings*, page 71.

That doesn't mean that we will ever be as wise as God, as wonderful as God. We will never be infinite like God is. We will always be little moons reflecting His divine glory. But that we may fully reflect that glory to the extent of our capacity; that we may show to others what Jesus is like.

That glory is the glory of love. The poor, selfish world, how it needs that revelation of love. That is the reason God gave us medical missionary work. There is nothing in a practical way that so fully reveals the love of Jesus as helping people where they are. If they are suffering pain, or need food, or need help in instruction, whatever it is, the love of Jesus reflected in the life and character of His children is to show what God is like.

This must happen first of all in our homes. Someone has aptly put it, The light that shines the furthest shines the brightest nearest home.

It would be a strange thing to see a light shining out of a window across the snow-covered fields, and if you went into the house there is no light there. That is impossible.

Oh, I challenge you, is there love in your home? Husband, do you love your wife? Does she know it? Wives, do you love your husband? Does he know it? Parents with children and children with parents, what about it? We are living in a time when homes are breaking up. But true homes were never sweeter or more wonderful than they are right now.

There are some. You can have one. You can have your home a little heaven to go to heaven in. Don't settle for anything less.

I plead with you, if there is a husband or wife here who needs that help, why not seek God yourself? Then seek out your spouse and say, Darling, let's pray together. Don't argue. Don't accuse. Don't defend. Don't debate. Don't even discuss. Get down and pray. God must do for you what needs to be done. The sun must rise over your horizon. The Son of Righteousness must rise in your heart and home. So God says, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee."

Somebody says, Brother Frazee, you don't know what I have to live with.

No, and I hope nobody finds out what you have to live with. I hope you and your companion and God will get that all settled. We are living in a time when people are seeking to solve their troubles in the home by spreading them all over the neighborhood. There is no success in that. Jesus' way is the best way. Seek the Lord with all your hearts. Seek the Lord together. Pray together.

"Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven" Matthew 18:19.

But there are husbands and wives that it is hard for them to agree on anything. Couldn't they at least agree to the fact that they don't agree on anything? That would make them long for help from Jesus. He would be ready to step in and help them if each one would confess that need, that longing. What a shame to limp along in the dark when we could have the glorious light of love shining in our hearts and homes.

What are we to be, suns or moons? What is our business, to originate light or reflect light?

"I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways" Isaiah 45:13.

No wonder the Lord, speaking of the physician, says:

"The man who is in closely connected with the Great Physician has the resources of heaven and earth at his command, and he can work with the wisdom and unerring accuracy of precision, that the godless man cannot possess" *Counsels to Teachers*, page 486.

I thank God for men and women who love Jesus, who love His testimony, who love to minister to suffering humanity. But all of us can be helpers. The needs of the soul are multiple, and many people have broken hearts. Many people have souls in their minds. Every one of us is to minister for Jesus, but we need wisdom. That is the promise.

"The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him

that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned” Isaiah 50:4.

Our first thoughts are to be making contact with Jesus. He wakes us in the morning. It is wonderful to have the concept that Jesus comes to my bed and wakes me because He has something He wants to say to me. Wouldn't it be too bad to rush off and miss it? Wouldn't it be too bad to skip the lesson. Thank God for the great privilege we have of listening to Jesus in the early morning, looking to Jesus before the dawn.

What do we get from it? The tongue of the learned. This is real education. Day by day Jesus experienced this. Because He had put Himself in our place, and was receiving help as we must receive it, every morning the Father woke Him, and every morning He received the help He needed for that day. Thank God, we can have it.

Jesus says, I have chosen you, I have redeemed you, I will direct you, and I will protect you. I want you to notice what the thought of God's protection enables the man of God to suffer and accept:

“The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed” Isaiah 50:5-7.

We are going into persecution. This is the month when special emphasis is being given to our religious liberty message. Everyone who has studied the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation knows that we are in for troublous times, and those who are going to stand for God's Sabbath and His law are going to be put in hard places and suffer. But through all that God's people are going right ahead because they know they have the divine wall of protection around them. The Lord God will help us.

“No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of Me, saith the LORD” Isaiah 54:17.

In other words, it is God who is vindicating us. We do not have to defend ourselves. Jesus told His followers, if you are hit on one cheek turn the other. Why? Leave it with God.

“Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord” Romans 12:19.

What does avenge mean? He hit me, so I will hit him. He said something bad about me, so I will say something bad about him. Who does vengeance belong to? God, but God is so slow sometimes. He allowed Herod to take off John the Baptist's head. He allowed Nero to behead Paul and crucify Peter. He allowed the backslidden, apostate church in the Dark Ages to persecute and torture and put to death millions. But through it all God's people have been learning and demonstration and revealing this precious truth—Revenge not yourselves.

The place to learn it is not in the torture chamber. The place to learn it is in your home. That's where Jesus demonstrated that beautiful principle. He spent most of His life not in public ministry, but as a child and a young man in His home in Nazareth. We are told that He did not contend for His rights. Often His home was made unnecessarily severe because He was so willing and uncomplaining.

Do not think that if you fully embrace these truths that God will see that nobody will ever hurt you. They hurt Jesus. The serpent bruised His heel, but not His head or heart. The only way that good can conquer evil is for love to be revealed instead of selfishness. Are you willing to leave all revenge with Jesus?

How many difficulties arise in the home because the husband or wife, or parents or children want to get even with somebody else? You never get even. Tit for tat, back and forth. It gets worse as time goes on. Don't start it. If somebody else starts it, don't go ahead. Avenge not yourself. "It is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

If you try to take over the avenging, and get revenge on others, whose place are you getting into? God's place. Oh, don't worship the beast or his image. Don't be like him. Rather turn it over to Jesus.

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper;
and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment
thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants
of the LORD, and their righteousness is of Me, saith the
LORD." Isaiah 54:7

There is coming a time when everybody who has ever lived in this world will be alive upon the earth all at one time. All will be alive from Adam and Seth and Enoch on down to the last person who was born on this world. John pictures it in the twentieth chapter of Revelation. And everybody in this world will either be inside the city looking out, or outside the city looking in. The people outside the city will be busy getting ready to attack the people of God. They are up to their old tricks to fight, to persecute, to get their way by force.

"Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by Me:
whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for
thy sake. Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth
the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument
for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy"
Isaiah 54:15-16.

Isn't it too bad that man has taken the skills and talents that God has given them and turned them in the awful service of force and rebellion? But God says to His people, never mind. God's people will not fight in that last battle. We will abide safely with Jesus in that city. We will witness the great judgment. We will see the wicked come and will not be afraid, because God's promise is that no weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper.

“And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee” Isaiah 54:13-14.

We are learning these lessons now in looking to Jesus and learning His peace and purity and love and forgiveness. Instead of meeting rebellion with hatred and opposition, we will meet it with the love of Jesus. This is how Christ conquered at Calvary. It was the forgiving love that broke the hearts of those who were susceptible to His divine influence. This is what God is wanting to teach us.

This evening we are looking at the election of the Word of God. He has chosen us. We are looking at the reflection of His character in the lives of His people. We are looking at His direction that we may know the path in which we are to go. We are looking at His protection, which is like a wall of fire about His people. Because of His election, we have no worries about our acceptance. Because of looking to Him, we reflect His image, and are looking to Him for help and strength and light and love instead of ourselves.

Because of His promise of direction we know that we are guided. I give a wonderful promise on this:

“So long as we come to our heavenly Father humble and with the spirit to be taught and anxious to learn, why should we doubt God's fulfillment of His own promise? We must not for a moment doubt and dishonor Him thereby. When you have sought to know His will, your part in the operation of God is to believe that you will be led and guided and blessed in the doing of His will”
Bible Commentary, Vol. 3, page 133.

We are not only to ask for wisdom, but we are to open up the way for God to answer our prayers by believing what He says. I want you to notice how Jesus puts it so clearly:

“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” Mark 11:24.

When we have asked for acceptance we are to believe that we are accepted. When we have looked to Him for light to resist evil we shall believe that He hears us, and go forward in faith. When we have asked for His guidance we shall believe that

He is directing us according to His promise and seek to follow Him the best we know. And when we have asked for His protection we shall believe that the angel of the Lord is round about us to defend us so we don't have to vindicate ourselves. We don't have to argue and debate or hit with our fists or our tongues. Oh, wonderful love of Jesus to give us these precious promises.

I love my Lord. He has done so much for me. I thank Him that I am one of His elect. I don't deserve it, but He does. I got in on His name. I know you got in the same way. Jesus died the same for you as He did for me. He loves you the same as He loves me. He wants you to enjoy these things. He wants you to enter into them with all your hearts.

Faith is simple. It isn't complicated. There are many things in the Bible that are complex. Some of them we will be studying through eternity. But to give our sins to God and believe that He accepts us, that can be very simple.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”
1 John 1:9.

Jesus has made us accepted in the beloved. So we are a part of God's elect as we accept Him, for He has accepted us. We reflect His image and glory as we behold Him. He has promised to direct our ways and to protect us. Praise be to His wonderful name.

Our opening text was:

“Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I am God, and there is none else” Isaiah 45:22.

Let's keep looking to where the light is. Let's not let any devil in hell or any human influence divert our minds. Let's be like that man in Pilgrim's Progress. He put his fingers in his ears and ran straight ahead saying, “Life, life, life that will not end,” and refused to listen the diverting invitations.

“Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.”

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