

Look Unto Jesus

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Study given by W. D. Frazee—March 25,

I have a study that comes out of the book of experience, along with the wonderful book, the Bible. God intended that the Bible should be our textbook, and the book of experience our laboratory book in which each one of us write down the things that we find that works in our lives.

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” Hebrews 12:1-2.

Our eyes are to be fixed on Jesus. If we will look at Jesus, there are a lot of other things we will miss. God has not put eyes in the back of our head. He intends that you and I shall keep our eyes fixed upon Jesus. If we will do this, a lot of wonderful things can happen to us.

“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.

If we look to Jesus we will be saved from sin and a lot of trouble. We will be saved from worry and many things if we will look unto Jesus.

When the children of Israel were going through the desert, every now and then they had a spell of murmuring. Isn't it wonderful to see how patient God was with them? Has He ever been patient with you when you murmur and complain? He has with me. Oh, I thank Him for it.

But sometimes He lets us suffer in order to teach us some lessons. So while He had been protecting the children of Israel from the serpents through the wilderness wanderings, when the murmured and complained came again He let them suffer real trouble instead of imaginary trouble. So as they cried to Moses, Moses cried to the Lord. Let's see what the Lord said:

“And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any

man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived”
Numbers 21:8-9.

If a man looked he lived. Suppose he didn’t look. He died. Let’s see what it means:

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life”
John 3:14-15.

God said, Moses, make a serpent out of brass. Make something like what is hurting the people, and put it on a pole. If they look they will live. So Jesus came in the likeness of sinful flesh and was lifted up on the cross in order that we might look and live (Romans 8:3,4). How are we saved? By looking at Jesus. Isn’t that simple? Can you explain it? No. Could anyone explain it back there that looked at the serpent on the pole they were healed? The only explanation is that when they did what God told them to do, then God did what they asked Him to do. When they looked, He performed the miracle and healed the bite of the serpent. So if you and I will look to Jesus, a miracle will take place in our lives. Let’s look and keep looking. What do you say?

“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. This He said, signifying what death He should die” John 12:32-33.

What kind of death did Jesus die? He died the death of the cross. Oh, what magnetic power is the power of Jesus on the cross. If we will look we will be drawn. If we look we will be changed. If we look something will happen to our hearts and minds.

In one of the Old Testament prophecies is hidden away one of the greatest Gospel jewels in all the Bible. Notice what happens when we look at Jesus on the cross:

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn”
Zechariah 12:10.

What happens when we look at Jesus on the cross? We mourn. Another word is weep. Did you every weep? The sad thing is that most of our crying is because we are getting a whipping either literally or what it symbolizes. But Jesus is longing to get us to the place where we sorrow not because of the whipping, but because of the transgression; not because of the results of sin, but because of sin itself.

What will happen to us if we sorrow that way about sin? We won’t go back to it, will we? Notice what makes it. “They shall look upon Me whom they have

pierced.” Do you mean we have pierced Jesus? Yes, with our sin. And the sin that causes Jesus to die can never bring fun and joy and satisfaction to me when I realize it. The power of sin is broken when we look at Jesus on the cross, dying to make it possible for Him to pardon.

We not only find sorrow by looking to Jesus, and we need to sorrow, but we also find joy and satisfaction.

“They looked unto Him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed” Psalms 34:5.

A friend of mine has an evangelistic series that he calls radiant living. What is it that makes the faces of God’s children radiant? Looking to Jesus. The moon is radiant when it is looking where? At the sun. So our faces can be radiant when looking to Jesus.

The New English Bible translates it, “Look toward Him and shine with joy.”

Another translation puts it, “Every face turned to Him grows brighter.”

So if we want to shine with joy and satisfaction, look away from our poor, sinful selves to Jesus.

Somebody says, “Brother Frazee, you don’t know how bad I am.”

No, I don’t know how bad you are, and don’t tell me. For one thing, you don’t even know how bad you are. You are worse than you thought you were. So why look in that direction? When we look to man trouble grows. When we look to Jesus trouble goes. They looked toward Jesus and shined with joy. Why?

“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” John 1:29.

Another word for behold is look to, to consider. Behold who? The Lamb of God. What happens when we look? He takes away the sin of the world. Is sin burdening your heart? Look to Jesus and He will take it away. You want Him to, don’t you? Nobody here wants to hang onto the selfish, sinful heart. Oh, no. We want Him to take away our sins, and He does it as we look. As we look to Jesus dying on the cross we see how bad sin is that caused His death, and we see how loving He is to give His life in order that He might forgive us.

“I have set the LORD always before me: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore”
Psalms 16:8-9,11.

All this is possible by setting the Lord always before us. He is always ahead of the Christian. And as we fix our eyes on Him, He takes away the worries and

fears, and we find our joy looking to Him. Someone says that if you trust you cannot worry, and if you worry you cannot trust. Which direction are we looking? What we see depends on what directions we are looking. We are looking to who? Jesus.

If I am interested in looking to Jesus, I am interested in everything about Him. I want to know especially where He is and what He is doing right now. I find that people who think a great deal of each other like to keep in touch with each other. They like to know what the one they love is doing. What is Jesus doing?

“Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them” Hebrews 7:25.

What does intercession mean? Another word is praying, pleading. Jesus is at the right hand of God. He is in the sanctuary at the mercy seat pleading for us. To look to Him today means to think not only what He did in making the world six thousand years ago, or what He did on the cross two thousand years ago, but what He is doing right now in holding up His wounded hands at the mercy seat and praying for us.

How are we to use all this in winning souls? We are to have a living, active experience in looking to Jesus on the cross and at the mercy seat. As we do this we can help other people to experience it too.

“Oh, Christ is able, Christ is willing, Christ is longing, to save all who will come unto Him! Talk to souls in peril and get them to behold Jesus upon the cross, dying to make it possible for Him to pardon” *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 6, page 67.

There are so many precious verses in the Bible that describe His death for us. This is to be real and living. This is the power of God to gather souls, but we must know it in our own hearts.

“Talk to the sinner with your own heart overflowing with the tender, pitying love of Christ. ... As you look upon our Intercessor in heaven, let your heart be broken. Then, softened and subdued, you can address repenting sinners as one who realizes the power of redeeming love. Pray with these souls, by faith bringing them to the foot of the cross; carry their minds up with your mind, and fix the eye of faith where you look, upon Jesus the Sin Bearer” *Ibid*.

Two great focal points that the eye is to be fixed upon is the cross and the present intercession of Jesus in the most holy place. The cross where He died for us, the sanctuary where He lives for us. It takes both. And all that is to be made real and living and vivid. It is not to be made complex. It is not something to get all mixed up with theological problems. It is to be made as simple as A B C. Jesus died for me on Calvary, He lives for me in the sanctuary. His heart was broken by sin, He

is presenting His merits at the mercy seat in my behalf. I am to see it so vividly that I can help others to see it. Notice what will happen:

“Get them to look away from their poor, sinful selves to the Saviour, and the victory is won” *Ibid*.

Will it happen? Will it happen tonight if you and I will look? Thank God, we don't have to wait for anything to do this. We don't have to wait until we get the dishes washed. I am not talking about literally washing dishes. They got all washed before Sabbath. But I wonder if we have any problems at home between husband and wife, parents and children, neighbors, or brothers and sisters in the church. We do not have to wait until we get all that adjusted before we can look to Jesus. The truth of the matter is that we need to look to Him in our needs, and He will help us get all those problems solved. “Get them to look away from their poor, sinful selves to the Savior, and the victory is won.”

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” Romans 5:1.

We have peace. As we see Jesus dying for us, and we look up to where He is interceding for us, we get the help He wants us to have.

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” Hebrews 4:16.

Is there anybody here tonight who would like to look to Jesus? Is there anybody who would like to look away from yourself and others? Some of us have our minds fixed on ourselves. Some of us have our minds fixed on others. But friends, our own faults or the faults of others will never bring us courage. We will find courage looking to Jesus. He died for me. I will live for Him.

Lord, we thank Thee with all our hearts that Jesus is real. He really loves us, and we can turn our eyes away from all the things that worry and confuse and dishearten us, the faults of others, our own failures and mistakes. We can bring them all as it were in a great bundle and leave them at the foot of the cross. We can look up and see the Prince of life giving His life that we might be redeemed.

Oh, let those blood drops fall from that wounded head and hands and feet and drop upon us that we may be indeed cleansed from sin, that our worries and fears may be left with Thee, and that we may go free in Jesus. Justified by faith, accepting the life that was given for us. I pray that Thou will bless each one here tonight with this wonderful blessing, for Jesus' sake, Amen.

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