WHAT DO Your Eyes SEE??!!

Looking and Living Beyond the Obvious!

CRC Churches International Ps Hans Voortman

1 Corinthians 2:9

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him. But God has revealed it to us by His Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

Deeper! See, See & See!

The Empty Tomb

John 20:1-8.

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and <u>saw</u> that the stone had been removed from the entrance. 2So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

3So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He <u>saw</u> the strips of linen lying there, 7as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. 8Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He <u>saw</u> and believed.

The Three Greek words...

The eyes that see, can bring **understanding**. – Βλεπει

But the eyes alone.

The eyes that **contemplate**, can build faith. – Θεωρει

But contemplate alone.

And the eyes of faith, bring **transformative knowing**. – $E_1\delta\epsilon v$ **To see and see**.

Our Sixth Sense! The Role of the Holy Spirit...

Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know how we ought to pray, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

Matthew 8:13

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and <u>as you have believed, so let it be done for you</u>." And his servant was healed that same hour.

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as if nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is." Albert Einstein.

Seeing is Believing.

Believing is Seeing!

Natural Perception determines the Supernatural.

Supernatural Perception determines the Natural.

Mark 6:30-44 Feeding of 5,000

(5 Loaves and 2 Fish: 12 Baskets full left).

Mark 8:1-10 Feeding of 4,000

(7 Loaves and fish: 7 Baskets full left).

The Yeast of the Pharisees and Herod...Mark 8:14-21

14The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf they had with them in the boat. 15"Be careful," Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the *yeast of the Pharisees* and that of *Herod*."

16They discussed this with one another and said, "It is because we have no bread." 17Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your *hearts hardened*? 18Do you have *eyes* but fail to *see*, and *ears* but fail to *hear*? And don't you remember? 19When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?" "Twelve," they replied.

20"And when I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?" They answered, "Seven." 21He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"+

Leaven of the Pharisees... "Religious" Christians.

Leaven of Herod... "Self Power" Christians.

Leaven of Heaven... "Kingdom" Christians.

Mother Theresa... Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu.

"I have three pennies and a dream from God."

"With three pennies you can't do anything"...

"I know. <u>But with God and three pennies I can do anything!"</u>

"Find your own Calcutta!"

Be Bold of Faith...

Not being moved by what you see!

"If you do the *Little things* like they are *Big things*, God will bless them and use them."

Expect a Miracle!

"We totally underestimate the power available to us as conduits of Christ, but once in a while God gives us a glimpse!"

Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God: But only he who sees takes off his shoes.

The rest sit round it, and pluck blackberries. Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Some things cannot be *perceived*. They can only be *conceived*.

Some things cannot be deduced. They can only be imagined.

Some things cannot be *learned*. They can only be *revealed*.

The Thirty Day Challenge! Step up to the plate and do something!

Matthew 8:13

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; as YOU have believed, so let it be done for you."

Matthew 6:22-23

Your *eyes* are windows into your body. If you *open* your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light. If you live squinty-eyed in greed and distrust, your body is a dank cellar. If you pull the blinds on your windows, what a dark life you will have!