

## Msg #136 of *Scripture Beneath The Surface*

*“Through Which Eyesight Do You See?”*

With Randy Smith

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Hello! Thanks for being with us. Today I'd like to expand a little bit on the message that I gave last week. Last week's message was called, Sight of the Beast, and dealt with the second beast of Revelation 13, and how this second beast is able to do signs and wonders, but only from the perspective of natural man, from the perspective of earth's physical realm.

In case you missed last week's program, let me give you a quick overview. Revelation 13 tells us that the second beast is able to do signs and wonders, but only in the sight of the first beast. This doesn't mean within seeing distance from the first beast, but it means that the second beast can only do miracles from the beast perspective, which is according to the logical order of the universe rather than by the spoken word of God. Anything that is not aligned with the Holy Spirit of God is automatically aligned with the beast nature which inhabits natural man, who was made carnal. He was made earthly; flesh and blood. Now, 1 Corinthians 15:50, tells us that mankind, in his natural state, in his flesh and blood form, cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Only born again man, who becomes born again in spirit, will be able to come into the presence of God. Mankind was created on the sixth day of creation, the same day that animals were created. Therefore, unregenerated man is equated with the number six, and is associated with the animal kingdom. He will remain associated with the animal kingdom until such time as he enters into the seventh day rest of God and becomes associated with God in spirit. In order to enter into God's rest, mankind must choose to cease from his own works, from trusting in his own strength, his own might and power. He must be born again in spirit and start to walk by faith and not by sight.

To make this as simple as possible, try to comprehend that we humans were not made spiritual beings initially, but were originally created to be much closer to the animal kingdom than God's kingdom. This is why our future lies in being born again in spirit. Those who reject Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will remain aligned with the carnal nature, the beast nature of this earth, and therefore will not inherit the kingdom of God. If you can recognize that earthly man is carnal, and that the wicked who reject Jesus Christ will not be able to comprehend God in spirit, then it is fairly easy to recognize that these wicked people trust more in the nature of the beasts of this earth than in the nature of God's Holy Spirit.

Now, all humans have physical eyesight, but it is only Christians who actually receive the Holy Spirit of God. Therefore, it is only Christians who can fully comprehend God from the spiritual perspective. It is only Christians who can see into the spiritual things that God has for us. It is only Christians who can worship God in spirit and in truth. God gives his Holy Spirit to those who believe in him and in his Son. However, the wicked do not have the Holy Spirit to guide them into all truth, and therefore, their eyesight is strictly from a physical point of view. They cannot see the spiritual things of God. They see through carnal eyes. Their sight is from the perspective of the beast nature, not God's nature. God's nature is the nature of the Holy Spirit. Unregenerated man does not have the Holy Spirit nature of heaven. Unregenerated man has the beast nature of this world.

This is the basic concept of last week's message. If you would like more of it, just call or contact us in some way and we'll send it to you. Everything we have is free. So don't hesitate to ask. If our messages can help you, that's what we want. You can even call me and talk directly with me, one on one, and you don't even have to tell me who you are. We're not a ministry that is trying to use you to get money, and we're not going to send out monthly requests. We are just trying, in the best way we know how, to get the message out to anyone who will listen in order that people might be better prepared to meet the Lord.

Now, we all have eyesight, but Christians do not see things in just physical ways. At least, they shouldn't, because we Christians should walk by faith and not by sight. The two beasts of Revelation have their power from an earthly point of view, but Christians walk by faith. Christians look to faith as their substance and as their hope. The world places their hope and trust in the powers of the universe, but Christians place their hope and trust in God, and they do it by faith in God and not by logic.

However, what I would like you to think about today is that most of Christianity has little comprehension of Satan's great deception. Satan is deceiving people into thinking that our physical eyesight is sufficient to meet our needs. The world sees things from the physical perspective, but God's people need to see things from the spiritual perspective. Yet, the deception is so strong that most Christians have a much greater reliance on their physical eyesight than on their spiritual eyesight.

The eyesight of the beast is strictly physical eyesight. And, because humans are created initially as physical beings, the perspective they can most easily see by is their physical perspective. When we become Christians we begin a struggle between the Holy Spirit within us and the beast nature within us. This is the spiritual warfare that continues throughout our earthly life. We are in a constant battle against our flesh and blood. Our carnal nature fights against our spirit nature, which makes it very difficult to see things clearly according to God's spirit, and it makes it very difficult to walk by faith. As anyone knows, it's much easier to see things that are logical, to see things in the physical realm as being more realistic, then to walk by faith.

Throughout Scripture we have examples of great men of faith. Hebrews, chapter 11, names several of these people who had great faith in God, and because of their great faith, were able to see past the outward physical realm of earth and follow after God in spirit. Hebrews 10:38 tells us that the just, the righteous people, shall live by faith. We know that the unrighteous people of Earth do not live by faith, but that they live by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 says, "for we walk by faith, not by sight."

However, the beast nature that humans are so closely aligned with is very strong because of the flesh and blood bodies that we inhabit, and because they are not yet glorified bodies. But, the Bible tells us that when Jesus Christ comes in the clouds of heaven that the righteous will be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. At that time we will be changed from the corruptible form of flesh and blood bodies into new glorified bodies which are no longer subject to corruption from sin. Of course, we don't know yet what our new glorified bodies will actually be like, but we do know that our bodies will not be so closely associated with the animal kingdom as they are now. And, by the way, have you ever thought about how our bodies are so closely physically aligned with the animal kingdom. One interesting thing about human bodies is that they have tail bones. We all have a tail bone, but no tail. Of course, animals have tail bones, but they protrude outwardly from the animals and form tails. God has created humans a step above animals, yet not really very far above them. I don't believe our new glorified bodies will have tail bones, because we know that the concept of a tail bone is representative of beasts, but not representative of born-again spirit beings. The tail is associated with that which is beastly, that which is animalistic. Even Satan's initial rebellion against God is associated with the beast nature, for it was with his tail that Satan was able to draw a third of the angels away from God. If you want to, you can read about this in Revelation 12:4.

The temptation to live according to human eyesight rather than to walk by faith is very great. Many Christians have little understanding of walking by faith and seem to think that their power lies in the physical realm rather than in the spiritual realm. They seem to think that their strength to exist and to accomplish anything at all is based in science and technology rather than in the word of God. Satan continually attacks our faith, hoping to destroy any belief in God. Of course, Christians believe in God, but sadly not to any great extent. Sure, we believe that God is real, and we believe in Jesus Christ as Savior, but most of the promises of God are beyond our grasp. Sure, there is a lot of people who claim to have the great power of God, but it only takes a

little bit of Bible searching to realize that when it comes to working signs and miracles through the power of God, our faith is sadly lacking.

What I mean by this is that Christians are unable to operate to any great extent within the realm of faith. They can comprehend the healing received from physicians, and they can comprehend how a credit card can give them the money they don't really have, and they can comprehend how a bulldozer can move that mountain, but they can't see how God can supply or do these things for them just by faith. Our faith is absolutely pitiful. And, I'm including myself as well.

So, what kind of sight do you see by? As a Christian we should be learning to see things from God's perspective. But Satan doesn't want us to see things from God's perspective. He wants us to see things without faith, and to comprehend things from a strictly physical viewpoint. Satan doesn't want us to walk by faith, and he is throwing everything at us that he possibly can in order to destroy our faith in God. Satan's world system is no accident. It has been finely orchestrated since the beginning of the world in order to convince mankind that the ways of God are not needed, and that mankind can place his trust in the earthly realm of science and in his own technology.

Now, here's a point I would like to make. Many people claim that the science and technology of earth is God's way of blessing us. This is a profound error. God does not depend on science and technology to do anything, and he certainly doesn't want us to depend on it either. God wants us to be born again in spirit and to walk by faith. It is Satan who wants us to walk by sight. But, if you walk by sight instead of walking by faith, you will never come to fully know God in spirit. The science and technology of this world is Satan's way of trying to institute earthly powers in place of the power of God which comes by faith.

And here's something else. Did you know that the actual word for world, as found in the Bible, is cosmos? The word cosmos means, order. We know that the world, the cosmos, works in an orderly procession. The sun comes up in the morning, travels across the sky in the daytime and sinks below the horizon at night. But, by faith, we can speak a word, and the sun can stand still, as it did for Joshua in the battle against the Amorites. The sun stood still for about a whole day.

The universe is logical, it is orderly. And, we know that in this earthly realm we can use this logical order of things to accomplish goals. We can move a mountain with a bulldozer, but Jesus said we can do it by just saying to this mountain, "be thou removed and cast into the sea." We know that we can do surgical procedures to replace the crippling of bad joints. I, myself, am the recipient of a joint replacement. However, Jesus demonstrated the healing of crippled people by just speaking the word. Of course, Jesus could see with spiritual eyesight. He didn't look at things through the eyes of man. The sight of Jesus was by the Holy Spirit, not by the beast nature of earth. Jesus walked by faith, not by sight.

When we as Christians run into obstacles, we are encouraged by the Bible to seek God by faith for the help we need. But we don't do that very much. Oh, maybe some of you do, but I know

that I am lacking greatly in this area. I pray and pray and pray, but I have never been able to reach any really high level of faith. But, I'm working on it.

You see, my point is not to condemn Christians for having a lack of faith, but to point out that it is much easier to see in the physical realm than it is to see from God's spiritual point of view. It's much easier to walk by the sight of this world, by the sight of our earthly beast nature, than it is to walk by faith. However, this doesn't mean that we should ignore faith and begin solely to trust in the powers of earth. Satan would love to have us set faith aside and look just to science and technology for our strength. But this is what the spiritual warfare is all about.

Now, the next time you read Revelation 13, and the scripture is telling you that the second beast is able to do signs and wonders, please try to comprehend that these verses are telling us that the beast is able to do signs and wonders, but only according to the beast nature, the carnal nature, that Satan works through in the earth. The signs and wonders of the second beast are not accomplished by speaking the word of God, but are accomplished according to the power of man's own hands. The signs and wonders of the second beast are not by faith, but are a result of the science and technology of the physical realm of earth. Satan is trying to replace the word of God with man's own physical power. He is trying to substitute computers, nano-biology, and cloning for the powerful word of God. He is trying to replace faith by substituting logic. And, to a great extent, the world has gone after Satan, and the world has believed the lie. The world is caught up in Satan's world system of science and technology, and they no longer comprehend the faith of God's word.

It's not science and technology that we need to trust in. It's not skyscrapers which will exalt us to heaven, no more than it was the Tower of Babel that would exalt those people to heaven. But earth is in a downward spiral, and the chains of darkness are destroying them. They don't have the light from God. They don't have the light of God's word or the faith that comes from that light, but they have the light from the physical earth. They have the light from Earth's sun and moon, which is the light that earthly man sees by. Without the light from the sun, man's physical eyes would be blind. But if that happens to a Christian, they can still see by faith. A Christian, who is physically blind, can still see the things of God. They can still see the promises of God and the hope of eternal life. But the people of this world who worship the god of this world, can only see by physical eyes, and they can only comprehend from logical understanding. The people of this world who reject Jesus Christ cannot see Jesus, and they cannot understand God's word, and they cannot have a hope of eternal life, because they trust in bulldozers, and computers, and in their credit cards. But Christians should not be locked into the sight of the beast. Christians should be walking by faith in God, clearly seeing the promises of God through the Holy word of God. It is by faith that we Christians need to walk, not by the sight of the beast. Our hope is not in the signs and wonders of earth's physical nature, but in the glorious word of God.

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Have you ever thought about what the Bible means when it talks about the sun and moon being darkened and the stars falling from the heaven or withdrawing their shining? This event is

referred to many times in scripture, and always refers to the last days; the end times. The symbolism is great, yet it can be understood when we understand the concept of the sight of the beast. The sight of the beast is the eyesight by which natural man sees. The sight of the beast is physical sight, not faith. Therefore, the sight of the beast relies on light, but not on the true light from God, but from earthly comprehension. The sun, moon, and stars represent the light of earth, the light by which earthly man sees. The sun, moon, and stars represent the way that mankind comes into knowledge, and man's knowledge is a physical knowledge.

Everything in our current battle of spiritual warfare is centered on the two aspects of our existence. On the one hand we are physical people, created to live out our lives on this earth, tilling the soil and constructing houses to live in. It's easy to settle down into this mode of living and forget to concentrate on God and on his will for our lives. Of course, those who reject God have no other knowledge by which to walk, for their light, their knowledge, is physical, and depends on the logic of science and the orderly sequence of technology. In scripture the sun, moon, and stars represent the light of knowledge that is recognized by physical man. God's light from heaven, the spiritual light of God's word is not the same thing. That's why the Bible tells us that in the new earth and in the new Jerusalem, there will be no sun because God's light will provide all the light that we need.

Earth's people are being deceived by Satan into thinking that the sun, moon, and stars are all the light that we need. Through this light, from the human perspective, mankind has been able to create all kinds of technological marvels, especially in these last days in which the second beast is operating without hindrance. But the day will come, and soon, that the Lord will say, "That is enough. Stop mankind now from understanding all things, and begin to let the light of God shine onto the earth in order that my people will be given the knowledge of God." At this time, when the sun and moon are darkened, the people who have rejected God's light will find that their own light, their own earthly knowledge, will begin to dim greatly, and they will become distressed like never before. It is at this very time that Christians must be able to trust in the true light from God. Don't be fooled by Satan's temptation to trust in science and technology. Set your hearts to seek after God's light, and to build up your faith and hope in him, before the light of the sun and moon darken, and you find yourself in the same sinking boat that earth's wicked people are in. Then, when darkness prevails on the earth, you will be able to see clearly, and will be ready when Jesus appears in the clouds of heaven.