

"Can You See?"

Presented by
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There are many different ways to see our world. To see may be general or a basic ability to discern structures, recognizing people and avoid walking into doors. Summed up -- "I can see."

To see, may also be specialized or specific. The ability to drink in colors, see the leak in an engine covered with grease, pick out a dangerous area, situation or person. Summed up -- "I can see details."

There is the ability to see the actions of people and activities of the world around us and perceive their meaning. The ability to read "body language", "interpret" hostilities or understand why in the world that kid is crying all night! Summed up -- "I can see what you mean."

Finally, there is the ability to experience reality. To the new parents, so full of fear, not sure there will be any joy -- "You'll see." To the man or woman convinced that their heart will lead them rightly -- "We will see." To the little boy convinced he could fly - just moments after he jumps off the roof -- "Now you can see."

Sight is not simple. In John 3, Christ makes a powerful statement to a Pharisee, "unless you are born from above you cannot see the kingdom of heaven." What did He mean?

CAN YOU SEE?

John 3:1-6

BACKGROUND

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WE KNOW!

John 3:1&2

The Pharisees:

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BASIC MARKS OF A PHARISEE

- **Separation**
- Visible **Religion**
- Respected and loved **Position**
- Vocal opinions and **Critiques**
- **Political** Activists
- Historical **Revisionists**
- Would not: **Shepherd**
Share
Serve

WARNING: Without the Spirit of God we are either
Legalistic or **Licentious**.

BUT...GOD IS WITH YOU

God wasn't just with Him...Christ was **God with us**.

A couple of thoughts:

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CHRIST'S ANSWER

- You must be born from **above**. (Same word as 3:12)
 - Earthly Parents → **Physical** lineage, looks and life established.
 - Heavenly Father → **Spiritual** lineage, looks and life established.

HOW DO I KNOW? WHAT'S THE MARK?

Faith in **Christ** or **Believe!**

FINAL THOUGHTS

- It is possible to be “active” but not **alive**.
- Faith produces **change** not **religion**.
- Faith produces a bold identification with **Christ!**