

AN EYESIGHT TEST

시력 검사

Luke 18:35-43 누가복음

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The Recovery of Eyesight.

- ▶ This passage talks about a blind man whose eyesight is restored.
- ▶ First, let's think about "eyesight".
- ▶ Can you see this? (a manger in the corner of the sanctuary)
- ▶ To see something we need our eyes which has been precisely designed and formed by Almighty God.

The Awesome Eye

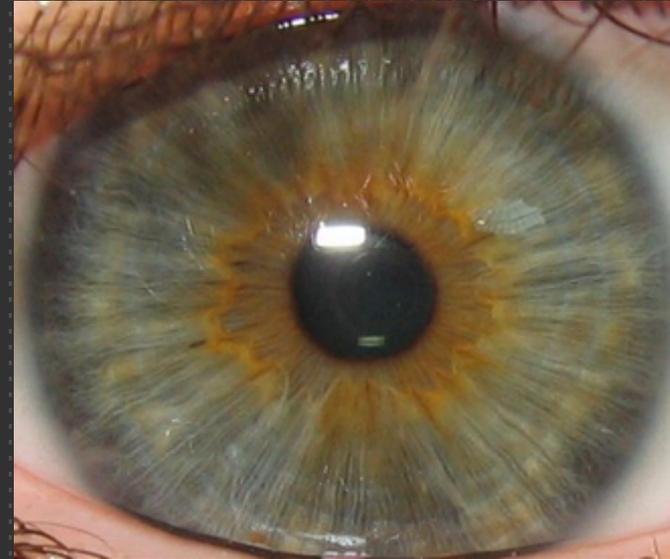
- ▶ “To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I confess, absurd in the highest degree.”
- ▶ That was Charles Darwin’s own testimony of his doubt, as far as he could allow himself, about the origins of the human eye. (*Origin*, Chap. VI)

The human eye is an indication of deep design and divinely inspired complexity.

- ▶ “The human eye, which mystified Darwin, is so sophisticated that it still eludes full explanation by modern science” (James P. Gills, M.D.)
- ▶ The eye makes 100,000 separate motions a day, and the eyelids will blink over 400 million times in an average lifetime.

The Iris

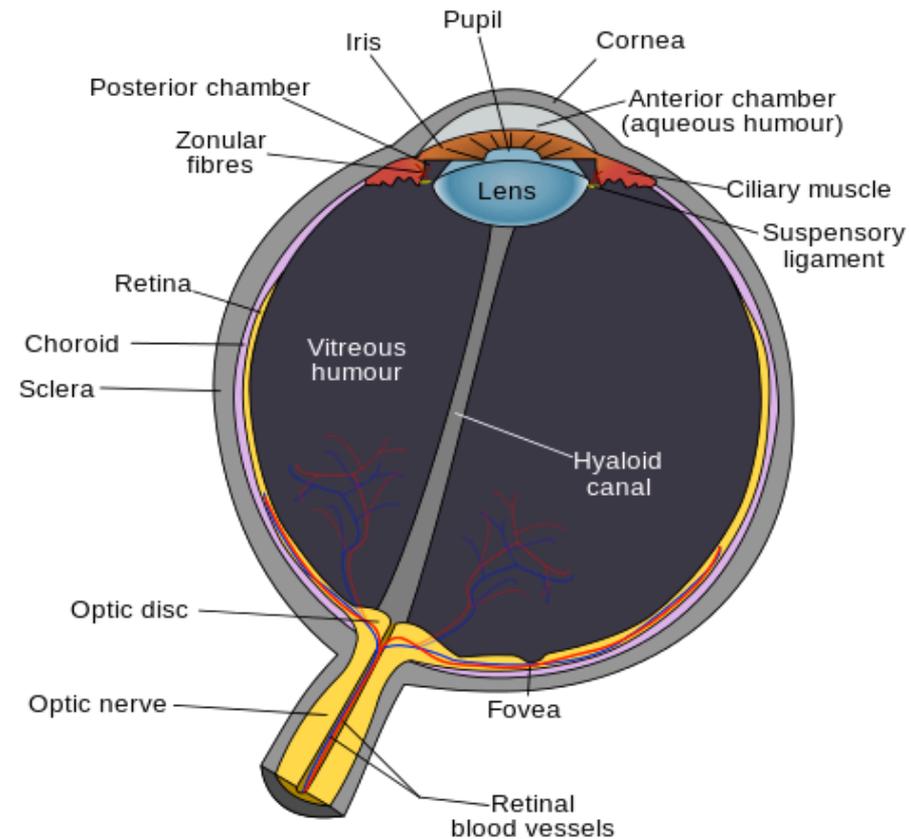
- ▶ The iris contracts and dilates to control passage of light to the back of the eye.
- ▶ It is the most data-rich structure in the body. An iris possesses 266 identifiable characteristics, compared to the rather scant 35 displayed by the hand's fingerprint, which is currently used for identification.



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/dc/Human_Iris_JD052007.jpg/1024px-Human_Iris_JD052007.jpg

- ▶ After the focusing accomplished by the biological lens, light and images strike the retina, which blankets the back of the eye.
- ▶ The cells of the retina – rod cells (100 millions) for dim and peripheral vision, and cone cells (6 millions) for color and fine detail perception – translate light photons into electrical impulses for the brain.

The Retina



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/1e/Schematic_diagram_of_the_human_eye_en.svg/508px-Schematic_diagram_of_the_human_eye_en.svg.png

The Retina

- ▶ The retina's continuous "exposure" and "development" of its pictures would take a Cray supercomputer 100 years to simulate what is occurring in the eye every second. (James P. Gills, *God's prescription for Healing*)

The Almighty Designer

Take heed, you senseless ones among the people; you fools, when will you become wise? Does He who implanted the ear not hear? Does He who formed **the eye** not see? (Psalm 94:8-9, NIV)

백성 중의 어리석은 자들아 너희는 생각하라 무지한 자들아 너희가 언제나 지혜로울까? 귀를 지으신 이가 듣지 아니하시랴? **눈을 만드신 이가 보지 아니하시랴?**

After the Fall...

- ▶ It happens for us to lose our sight because of a disease or an accident.
- ▶ Samson lost his eyes due to his lust.
- ▶ Isaac lost his eyes due to his advanced age.
- ▶ All men mentioned in Luke 18 had normal eyesight, whereas a man, who was a beggar, became somehow blinded.

Biological Eyesight versus Spiritual Eyesight

- ▶ The Bible teaches us that we can possess spiritual sight as well as physical eyesight.
- ▶ What is spiritual sight?
- ▶ Once, in replying Jesus told Nicodemus,

"I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." (John 3:3)

예수께서 대답하여 이르시되 진실로 진실로 네게 이르
노니 사람이 거듭나지 아니하면 하나님의 나라를 볼 수
없느니라.

Spiritual Sight

▶ Apostle Paul told King Agrippa,

I (Jesus) will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them **to open their eyes** and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me. (Acts 26:17-18)

이스라엘과 이방인들에게서 내 (예수님) 가 너를 구원하여 그들에게 보내어 **그 눈을 뜨게 하여** 어둠에서 빛으로, 사탄의 권세에서 하나님께로 돌아오게 하고 죄 사함과 나를 믿어 거룩하게 된 무리 가운데서 기업을 얻게 하리라 하더이다.

Spiritual Sight

- ▶ You need spiritual sight so that you can be turned from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God.
- ▶ In addition, with spiritual sight you can receive forgiveness of sin and belong to God's people.
- ▶ Briefly, with spiritual sight you can see/meet God and His kingdom.

How about their spiritual sight?

- ▶ Several people are mentioned in Luke 18:9-43. How about their spiritual sight? Are they spiritually blind or not?
- ▶ The Pharisee in the parable of Jesus (11-12) is spiritually blind, because he believes he is righteous, but actually he is a sinful man.
- ▶ He is spiritually blind because he neither know who God is nor who he himself is.

The tax collector in the parable:

- ▶ He has his spiritual sight,
- ▶ because he recognizes that he is a sinful man and confesses, and he dares not look up to heaven (God) indicating that he has fear of God.

The rich ruler who comes to Jesus seeking eternal life:

- ▶ He is spiritually blind,
- ▶ because he thinks he respects the Ten Commandments, but actually he does not.
- ▶ because he cannot see heavenly treasure that Jesus wants to give him, he cannot see Jesus who is the most precious treasure, and he rejects to follow Jesus sticking to his wealth.

Peter and the disciples:

- ▶ They have left all to follow Jesus, showing that they SEE Jesus is the most precious treasure. They possess spiritual sight.

The blind beggar:

- ▶ Although he is physically blind, his spiritual eyes are being opened. He is honestly interested in Jesus and longs to meet Him.

Recovery of spiritual sight and growth

- ▶ When your spiritual sight is recovered, you are born again being saved and now you can grow as a Christian.
- ▶ Therefore, if your eyes have not been opened, you are not yet saved. Without recovery of spiritual sight it is impossible for you to grow as a Christian.

You were blind

Your spiritual
eyes have
been opened

**Now you can grow
as a Christian**

The blind beggar

- ▶ As Jesus is approaching Jericho, a blind man is sitting by the road begging (35).
- ▶ What a pitiful man he is! How many troubles and difficulties he has had!
- ▶ Nevertheless this man must have a hope hearing about Jesus.

An honest prayer

- ▶ When he hears the crowd going by, he asks what is happening.
- ▶ They tell him, “**Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.**” (37)
- ▶ Then he calls out, “**Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!**”
- ▶ While people know Jesus as a Nazarene, the blind man knows him as Son of David, the Messiah.

An obstacle

- ▶ Even though this man urgently and sincerely asks Jesus for divine help, those who are in front rebuke him, telling him to be silent.
- ▶ The popular perception is that this blind man is too insignificant for Jesus to pay attention to. He should be quiet and leave Jesus alone.

Jesus cares for him

- ▶ However the rebukes solidify the blind man's resolve, and he cries out even louder for mercy saying,
"Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- ▶ Jesus stops and orders the blind man to be brought to Him. When he came near, Jesus asks him,
"What do you want me to do for you?"
네게 무엇을 하여 주기를 원하느냐? (41a)

A large crowd is now looking at the man.

- ▶ The blind man replies,
“Lord, I want to see.” (41b) “주여 보기를 원하나이다.”
- ▶ He does not hesitate but replies by faith.
- ▶ Actually in his request, the context shows that he has two wishes:
 - ▶ First, he longs to see the world (the recovery of his eyesight).
 - ▶ Second, he longs to see Jesus (the recovery of his spiritual sight)

The Healing and Salvation

- ▶ Then Jesus tells him,

“Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.”

“보라 네 믿음이 너를 구원하였느니라” (42)

- ▶ The blind man has faith in Jesus and Jesus sees it and heals him.
- ▶ Jesus not only has healed his eyes, but also saved this man, because he has faith in Him.

After Healing

- ▶ What does the man do after healing?

“Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God.” (43a)

“곧 보게 되어 하나님께 영광을 돌리며 예수를 따르니.”

- ▶ He followed Jesus. The Greek verb “followed” is in the form of the imperfect past tense, which indicates this man WAS following (i.e. CONTINUOUSLY followed) Jesus.

The blind man has become a disciple of Jesus.

- ▶ If he wanted to restore only his sight, he would leave Jesus after being healed.
- ▶ He does not leave Jesus, but he rather CONTINUOUSLY follows Jesus, because now his spiritual eyes have been also opened and he knows Jesus is the most precious treasure for him.

The story of Lynn and Hugo

- ▶ Lynn was a Quebecor having seriously weak eyesight. She could dimly see things. She was not able to read letters, so she had to learn to read braille.
- ▶ She had been in a deep despair, but in Jesus she found hope and purpose of her life. She worked hard and became a French teacher in the field of pronunciation correction. Hugo was a handsome Quebecor. He gave his life to Jesus when he was young. He became a high school math teacher.

The story of Lynn and Eric

- ▶ Hugo and Lynn came to know each other and loved each other. Because of her very weak sight Lynn could not do most of house works such as cooking, doing the dishes and cleaning. She could not drive. Knowing all about her handicaps, Hugo got married to her and they had four children.

The story of Lynn and Eric

- ▶ I and my wife came to know this couple in a church. And one day they invited us to their house. Hugo cooked for us and after lunch he did the dishes, while Lynn was talking with us. Hugo and Lynn were very warm persons and they were concern about me and my wife who had some difficulties at that time as immigrants. I and my wife clearly saw they were stable, glad and happy in spite of Lynn's handicap.

The story of Lynn and Eric

- ▶ They had zeal for Christ. They were participating to a project to plant a church near Rimouski. Finally a couple of years later they left Montreal and moved into a small town near Rimouski to share Jesus with people there. Lynn and Hugo showed me how those who possess spiritual sight are blessed.
- ▶ Spiritual sight will definitely change your life.

An Eyesight Test

- ▶ It is crucial for you to know if your spiritual eyes have been opened or not.
- ▶ You are invited to have your spiritual eyesight tested using instructions found in Luke 18:9-43.

Eyesight Test # 1

- ▶ The tax collector would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and prayed, “**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**” (13)
- ▶ If you have ever realized you are a sinful man/woman in the sight of God and confessed like this tax collector, your spiritual eyes have been opened.

Eyesight Test # 2

- ▶ When the rich ruler asked Jesus what should he do to inherit eternal life, He told him **“If you want to enter life, obey the Commandments.”** (20, Mt 19:17)
- ▶ The Ten Commandments can be used as an eye chart.

E	1	20/200
F P	2	20/100
T O Z	3	20/70
L P E D	4	20/50
P E C F D	5	20/40
E D F C Z P	6	20/30
F E L O P Z D	7	20/25
D E F P O T E C	8	20/20
L E F O D P C T	9	
F D P L T C E O	10	
P E Z O L C F T D	11	

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/9f/Snellen_chart.svg/800px-Snellen_chart.svg.png

The Ten Commandments

1. You shall have no other gods before me. 너는 나 외에는 다른 신들을 네게 두지 말라.

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol... 너를 위하여 새긴 우상을 만들지 말고...

3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God... 너는 네 하나님 여호와의 이름을 망령되게 부르지 말라.

4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 안식일을 기억하여 거룩하게 지키라.

The Ten Commandments

5. Honor your father and your mother. 네 부모를 공경하라.

6. You shall not murder. 살인하지 말라.

7. You shall not commit adultery. 간음하지 말라.

8. "You shall not steal. 도둑질하지 말라.

9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 네 이웃에 대하여 거짓 증거하지 말라.

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. 네 이웃의 집을 탐내지 말라.

Eyesight Test # 2

- ▶ If you keep the Commandments, your spiritual eyes have been opened.
- ▶ If you sometime break one of them, you feel guilty and come to Jesus to be forgiven, your spiritual eyes have been opened.
- ▶ However, if you do not seriously care about the Ten Commandments or if you do not feel guilty although you break one of them, you are spiritually blind.

Eyesight Test # 3

- ▶ Peter said, “We have left all we had to follow You!” (28)
- ▶ Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life.” (29-30)

Eyesight Test # 3

- ▶ If you put your priority on following Jesus, worshipping Him and building His church, your spiritual eyes have been opened.
- ▶ If you have ever left what you have to follow Jesus, you have spiritual eyesight.
- ▶ However, if you come to church to worship or study the Bible only when you are available, your spiritual eyes have not yet opened.

Spiritual Eyesight and Life

- ▶ Your eyesight is extremely precious, and spiritual eyesight is much more precious, because your life not only in this age but also in the one to come depends on it.
- ▶ If the eyesight test shows your spiritual eyes have not been opened, you are strongly encouraged to cry like the blind man, “**Son of David, have mercy on me!... "Lord, I want to see!"** (38, 41)
- ▶ And then the Lord Jesus will willingly heal your eyes and save you, saying “**Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.**” (42)

Spiritual Eyesight and Life

- ▶ If the eyesight test shows you have spiritual eyesight, congratulations! Give thanks to the Lord.
- ▶ Now you are able to grow as a Christian, you are encouraged to follow Jesus CONTINUOUSLY and SINCERELY. And then **you will SEE greater things than these**. (John 1:50)