

OPEN MY EYES

-Ryan Parsons-

Saul was a man who was well educated, well versed in the scriptures, and highly esteemed among his colleagues. Not only that, but he also had ambition and a “vision.” Saul was setting right what the Christians had skewed about his religion by wiping them off the map. Sadly, a man, who likely considered himself to be seeing things clearly, was actually blind (Matthew 13:15).

It intrigues me, then, that Jesus, when he confronted Saul on the road to Damascus, chose to strike this “blind man” with physical blindness. Perhaps Saul needed to experience the loss of his vision to get some true sight. In that darkness, Jesus revealed to Saul through a vision that his sight would be restored (Acts 9:12). No doubt he anticipated that with eagerness. But I wonder if, during those dark and scary days, Saul reflected on all his learning and remembered these words:

Psalm 119:5-6, 15, 18, 37, 81-82, 123

Oh that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!
Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.

**Open my eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.**

Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in your ways.

My soul longs for your salvation;
I hope in your word.
My eyes long for your promise;
I ask, “When will you comfort me?”

My eyes long for your salvation
and for the fulfillment of your righteous promise.

Could it be that this transformative experience is the basis for Paul’s prayer for the church in Ephesus?

Ephesians 1:17-18

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

May God bless you with clear vision as you continue to read His Word!