

## Seeing Is Believing Or is it?

## 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

"I will not believe it unless I see it with my own two eyes." Such was the approach of Thomas: "Except [unless] I shall see...I will not believe" (*John 20:25*). Man thinks that before he can believe, he must see ample evidence, and only then will he be ready to believe.

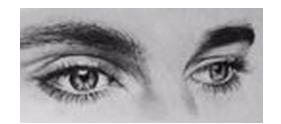
God's ways are not our ways, and the very opposite is true. God says, "If you believe, then you will see" (*compare John 11:40*). "And we **believe** and **are sure** that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God" (*John 6:69*). We first believe, and then we are sure. We must not wait until we are sure before we believe.

Our ability to see and understand is greatly lacking. God says that apart from faith in Christ we are blind: "the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not" (2 Cor. 4:4). As long as we "believe not," we are not going to see. Indeed, "the natural man [the unsaved man who does not have the Holy Spirit] receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Cor. 2:14). He cannot see because he is spiritually blind.

David Dunlap writes: "Humans always want to be sure before they believe, but God reverses the human order of things. It is utterly impossible to be sure of Biblical truth until we believe it. For example the Psalmist records, 'I had fainted, unless I had believed [that I would] see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living' (*Psalm 27:13*)."

If we wait until we understand before we believe, then we will never believe! "By faith we understand" (*Heb. 11:3*). When we simply take God at His Word, our eyes are opened!

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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