

SELECTIVE BLINDNESS

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One of the most difficult handicaps for anyone to overcome is blindness. I do not mean physical blindness, though that is heartbreaking, but spiritual blindness. Spiritual blindness comes from a hard and calloused heart that will not acknowledge the simple Truth in God's Word. Spiritual blindness will keep one from the Truth that is right before one's eyes. Spiritual blindness allows that which is not acceptable to God. Jesus had to deal with those who were spiritually blind in His life. He said, "THEREFORE I SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES, BECAUSE SEEING THEY DO NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY DO NOT HEAR, NOR DO THEY UNDERSTAND" (**Matthew 13:13**). The ambassadors of self-inflicted spiritual blindness had eyes that could see and ears that could hear, but they refused to open their minds to see the Truth of Jesus' teaching that was demonstrated in their presence.

This attitude of spiritual blindness is present in many today. They do not see the Truth because they refuse to look. Some have their eyes blinded because of "hero worship." Their favorite teacher or preacher has gone astray, but they refuse to see his error. Their loyalty belongs to men and not the Lord. They prefer walking with their hero rather than with God. They value more highly the fellowship of man than fellowship with the Lord. One cannot walk with God without seeing and obeying his Truth, Amos said, "CAN TWO WALK TOGETHER, UNLESS THEY ARE AGREED?" (**Amos 3:3**). Walking with God requires the acknowledgment of evil, even in the ones we love and respect.

Sadly, it is often the case that if a friend sins, we accept it. However, if someone who we do not respect or like does wrong, then all the force of our might is leveled against him. Spiritual blindness puts one into the dangerous waters of hypocrisy. Jesus condemned it in the lives of the Jewish leaders and He will condemn it in our lives.