

2020 Spiritual Vision

Matthew 13:10-17

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and your ears because they hear!

Matthew 13:10-17 – ¹⁰The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" ¹¹He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. ¹⁴In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: " 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. ¹⁵For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' ¹⁶But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

Sermon Summary

Americans spend over 5 billion dollars a year in trying to protect or maintain their eyesight. Vision is a precious thing to have and many take it for granted until they lose it. This message will focus our attention on achieving and maintaining 2020 spiritual vision so that you can see the world through the eyes of Christ and impact it for His glory.

Big Idea

Big Idea – Passionately Pursuing God Leads to 2020 Spiritual Vision

Three Marks of People with 2020 Spiritual Vision

Mark #1 – They Seek the Light

- **Matthew 13:10-12** – ¹⁰The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" ¹¹He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.
- **Psalm 119:18** – Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
- **Key Point** – The first key point comes to us from verse 10-12. It is in these verses that we examine the first foundational mark of a Christian with 2020 spiritual vision. There are two key statements found in these verses. **Key Statement #1** is "knowledge of the secrets of heaven has been given to you..." **Key Statement #2** is "Whoever has will be given more..." These two statements help us understand that in order to be filled with the light of the world and to experience the power of the Holy Spirit in our own lives then we must learn to continually be seeking the Light of the World and be willing to share this message with others.

Mark #2 – They Receive the Light

- **Matthew 13:13-15** – ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. ¹⁴In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: " 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. ¹⁵For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'
- **John 8:12** – When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
- **Key Point** – The second key point comes to us from verse 13-15. It is here where we read the crucial words that compel us to seek the light. Not everyone who is exposed to the message of the Gospel will be saved, some will reject it and some will ignore it, and some will simply despise it but many will be saved because they opened their hearts to the message of the Gospel and received the Light of the World (Jesus Christ) as their Savior.

Mark #3 – They Experience the Blessings of the Lord

- **Matthew 13:16-17** – ¹⁶But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.
- **Matthew 5:6,8** – Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled...Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- **Key Point** – The final key point comes to us from verse 16-17. It is here where we hear the words all mankind wants to hear, You are blessed. Only those who have come to place their faith in and walk with Christ will experience the blessings of the Lord.

Memory Verse

Matthew 13:16 – ¹⁶But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear!

Challenge

The One Year Bible Challenge – Make one of your New year's Resolutions, "The One Year Bible Challenge." This year begin passionately pursuing God by making it a goal to read through the entire Bible in one year. Also begin attending the "Faith Comes By Hearing" Bible reading service offered on Sunday Nights.

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