

A person wearing a blue button-down shirt is holding an open book. The image has a dark red overlay. The text "Guest Speaker" is written in a white, cursive font across the center of the image.

Guest Speaker



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# Seeing Beyond What Is *by Pastor Ron and Lynette Lewis*

**WARM UP:** Do you believe in anything your eyes haven't seen? What and why?

**READ:** 2 Kings 6:14-18, Daniel 11:32, Zechariah 4:6, John 4:34-35

**FOCUS:** We will come to know the GOD who is, when we trust Him to see beyond what currently "is".

## OBSERVE

### Eyes to see what God sees

- Like an airplane that rises above the storms, we must by faith in Christ rise above the turbulent storms of life to a place of peace. By faith we are seated at the right hand of God with Christ Jesus in heavenly places. God sees the redeemed as clothed in Christ and peace is their inheritance. (Colossians 3:1-4)
- We also must not be limited by what others see. Elisha did not agree with his servant's view and was not discouraged by it because he saw God's reality. He was able to overcome the present circumstance by faith in what was true but unseen.
- Elijah knew God. The servant only knew about God. The key to seeing what God sees is to know Him in spirit and truth. We must have God's heart to have his eyes. We must know Jesus.
- Those who know God will stand firm and take action as Elijah did. (Daniel 11:32)
- According to theologian J.I. Packer those who know God will have the following:
  - They have **energy** for God
  - They have **great thoughts** for God
  - They have **great boldness** for God
  - They have **great contentment** in God
- We need others around us who see what God sees to help us see as well.
- God's Word (the Bible) helps us see what God sees. It helps us see beyond what currently IS to what exists in heaven and is God's will on earth here and now.

## Ways to escape from living in 'what is'

- Faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17) Pray out loud and declare God's Word so your ears hear it and your faith grows.
- Stop talking about what is in an ultimate manner. No longer say "I can't" but do say "by God's grace I can have whatever God has for me". Begin agreeing with God and his Word as you learn his heart and about his kingdom realities.
- Stop saying "I can't take it" and do say "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)
- God disciplines those who loves in order to build them up. He exalts the humble and opposes the proud.
- God wants to build us up for strength in His Spirit. Knowing you can't accomplish something in your own strength keeps you humble allowing room for his Spirit..
- God allows trials that weighs us down to build us up in the Spirit of God. Weights (like a bodybuilder) do one of three things:
  - Tip you over
  - Test your strength
  - Train you for more!
- We serve and love a "right here, right now Jesus" who wants to help us in our very present need.
- We simply have to lift up our eyes to where our help comes from, the maker of heaven and earth!

## REFLECT AND DISCUSS (30 min)

- In what storms of life are you currently stuck?
- Do you believe God wants to calm the storm or raise you above it?
- What are some things the eyes of your spirit see but your mind doubts?
- Do you believe God is fighting for you? Do you see it?

## PRAY & TAKE ACTION

- Repent of unbelief.
- Pray for God to open your eyes to see what He sees.
- Read the Bible with an expectation of revelation.
- Pray and declare out loud God's truth and promises since "faith comes by hearing". (Romans 10:17)
- Stop saying what is opposite of God's Word and will.
- Surround yourself with others who see what God sees and will encourage you to walk by faith in God's truth.

## Scripture

### [2 Kings 6:14-18](#)

'So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city. When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see." So the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the Lord and said, "Please strike this people with blindness." So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha. '

### [Daniel 11:32](#)

'He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. '

### [Zechariah 4:6](#)

'Then he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts. '

### [John 4:34-35](#)

'Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. '

### [Colossians 3:1-4](#)

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3** For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is your<sup>[a]</sup> life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

### [Philippians 4:13](#)

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

## Quotes and References

### [“Knowing God”](#)

- By J.I. Packer

### [“Culture Matters: How Values Shape Human Progress”](#)

- By Lawrence E. Harrison and Samuel P. Huntington