

Open My Eyes!

- *Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things from Your law.* Psalms 119:18
 - **See** – behold, grasp, experience
 - **Wonderous things** – extraordinary thoughts, utterances, events
 - **From Your law** – that come through Your instruction, directives
- *Open my eyes, that I may behold, grasp, experience extraordinary thoughts, utterances, events that come through your instructions and directives*

Acres of Diamonds



“Eye Opening” Accounts:

- Abraham and Lot - Genesis 13:6-13
 - Conflict, crises, community breakdown
 - Eyes opened to **His plans** Genesis 13:14-16 with 15:5
 - Open my eyes to **Your commission** (joint - mission) for me/us.

*So ever since we first heard about you we have kept on praying and asking God to help you understand **what he wants you to do**; asking him to **make you wise about spiritual things**; and asking that the **way you live will always please the Lord and honor him**, so that you will **always be doing good, kind things for others**, while all the time you are learning to know God better and better. We are praying, too, that you will be filled with his mighty, glorious strength so that you **can keep going no matter what happens-always full of the joy of the Lord, and always thankful to the Father who has made us fit to share all the wonderful things that belong to those who live in the Kingdom of light.** Colossians 1:9-12*

- Hagar in Genesis 21:8-21
 - Her actions brought family to disaster's door
 - Eyes opened to **His provision** Genesis 21:18-19
 - Open my eyes to **Your care** for me/others
 - Me

You can be sure that God will take care of everything you need, his generosity exceeding even yours in the glory that pours from Jesus. Phil 4:19

- Others

Hagar is certainly a picture of the needy multitudes in the world today: wandering, weary, thirsty, blind, and giving up in despair. How we need to minister to their need and encourage them to drink from the “Fountain of Life” in the process...

Give to everyone who asks you for something. Don't turn anyone away who wants to borrow something from you. Matt 5:42

- Elijah's servant in 2 Kings 6:8-17
 - Profound political, social, moral turmoil – fearful realities
 - Eyes opened to **His power** vs. 14-17
 - Open my eyes to **Your confidence**
 - Lord's declaration Numbers 14:21
 - Our declarations

Even though an army sets up camp against me, my heart will not be afraid. Even though a war breaks out against me, I will still have confidence in the Lord. He hides me in his shelter when there is trouble. He keeps me hidden in his tent. He sets me high on a rock. Now my head will be raised above my enemies who surround me. Ps 27:3, 5-6

"O God my Rock," I cry, "why have you forsaken me? Why must I suffer these attacks from my enemies?" Their taunts pierce me like a fatal wound; again and again they scoff, "Where is that God of yours?" But, O my soul, don't be discouraged. Don't be upset. Expect God to act! For I know that I shall again have plenty of reason to praise him for all that he will do. He is my help! He is my God! Ps 42:9-11

- Two disciples – Luke 24:13-16,21
 - Crushed and confused
 - Eyes opened to **His passion** Luke 24:30-32
 - Open my eyes to **Your compassion** (Joint passion)

But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him. And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to... Mark 6:33-34

Summing up: Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving, be compassionate, be humble. That goes for all of you, no exceptions. No retaliation. No sharp-tongued sarcasm. Instead, bless — that's your job, to bless. You'll be a blessing and also get a blessing. Whoever wants to embrace life and see the day fill up with good, Here's what you do: Say nothing evil or hurtful; Snub evil and cultivate good; run after peace for all you're worth. God looks on all this with approval, listening and responding well to what he's asked 1 Peter 3:8-12