Keeping Both Eyes Open
Rom. 11:22

Introduction:
A. Many religious people have a one-eyed approach to God and his way.
   1. Fully see only one or the other of a two-sided proposition.
   2. Need to open both eyes and bring both sides into focus as one big picture.
B. There are several areas where we need to keep both eyes wide open.

Discussion:
I. The Goodness and Severity of God (Rom. 11:22).
   A. Goodness.
      1. Creation in His image (Gen. 1:27).
      2. Sacrifice of His Son (John 3:16)
      3. Salvation from sin (Mark 16:15,16; Rom. 1:16)
      4. Spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3).
      5. Eternal Salvation (Heb. 5:8, 9).
   B. Severity.
         a. Adam and Eve driven from the garden.
         b. The Flood
         c. Sodom and Gomorrah.
         d. Nadab and Abihu.
         e. Moses and Canaan.
         a. Ananias and Saphira.
         b. Herod (Acts 12:23)
         c. Jerusalem and ancient Israel.

II. Faith and Works (Jas. 2:14-26).
   A. Not faith only.
   B. Not works only.

III. Grace and Law (John 1:17).
   A. Was there no grace under Moses? (Ex. 33:13-19)
   B. Grace and truth in their fulness under Christ (vv. 14-17).
   C. Not grace without law (1 Cor. 9:21; Jas. 2:12)
   D. But grace within law (1 John 2:1)

IV. Firmness and Gentleness.
   A. Gentleness (Gal. 6:1; Rom. 14:1ff).
   B. Firmness (Tit. 1:13; 1 Cor. 5).
   C. Both needed (Jude 22, 23).

V. Security and Danger.
   A. “Once saved always saved” does not see danger (cf. 1 Cor. 10:12; Heb. 3:12)
   B. “Cannot be sure of salvation” does not see promises (1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Pet. 1:10; Rev. 2:10; 1 John 1:9).

Conclusion:
A. Let’s open both eyes and see the total picture.
B. Are you a believer? Great! Now follow through with baptism. (Mk. 16:16).

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