

BEHOLDING HIM

Psalm 27

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, In the light of His glory and grace.”



As an elderly friend showed us his spacious yard, we admired the incredible array of stunning flowers, bushes, and trees, some carefully preserved from previous generations. His dear wife appeared, explaining that she couldn't bear to come to the gardens because of all the weeds. (These two were physically limited, very involved with helping people, and had been unable to keep up with the weeds that rainy summer.) This brief encounter has often been a reminder to focus on God's beauty and not on Satan's ruin—on the flowers and not on the weeds.

More importantly, the eyes of my heart can choose one thing to see: “One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after...to behold the beauty of the Lord” (*Psalm 27:4*)—a beauty reflected in His Word and glorious Person. I need to bring “into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (*2 Cor. 10:5*).

The pictures on the walls of my mind should be uplifting and attractive. Both my physical and mental vision should pass the Philippians 4:8 test: “whatsoever things are true... honest... just... whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (*Phil. 4:8*).

I should look past the distressing weeds and enjoy the beauty of the Lord.

“Some murmur when their sky is clear, And wholly bright to view, If one small speck of dark appear In their great heaven of blue. And some with thankful love are filled, If but one streak of light, One ray of God's good mercy, gild The darkness of their night” (Bishop Trench).

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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