

# 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.
  - 1. Old Testament Examples.
    - a. Adam and Eve driven from the garden.
    - b. The Flood
    - c. Sodom and Gomorrah.
    - d. Nadab and Abihu.
    - e. Moses and Canaan.
  - 2. New Testament Examples.
    - 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).