## MAINTAINING GOOD VISION ALL YEAR LONG Marc Gibson

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. (Matthew 6:22)

Good eyesight is something we often take for granted...until it is gone. Some are blessed with good eyesight for most of their lives, while others, like myself, needed eyeglasses early in life to correct bad vision. Many things can affect eyesight, such as genetics, diet, work, age, etc.

"20/20 vision" is a measure of normal visual acuity, the sharpness or clarity of vision at a distance, meaning you can clearly see at 20 feet what should normally be seen at that distance. It is a wonderful blessing to have good vision. Blurred vision can be a frustrating, even dangerous, thing.

God is concerned with our eyesight, but not so much with our physical vision as with our spiritual vision. Our vision needs to be focused clearly on the things of God: "Open my eyes, that I may see wonderous things from Your law" (Psa. 119:18).

We need to be careful to stay focused as we seek God and His ways: "Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you" (Prov. 4:25). We are warned about distractions when driving, because if we take our eyes off the road bad things can happen. Spiritual distractions are dangerous to our soul if they cause us to lose our focus.

For the Christian, the main focus is Jesus: "Let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the authorand perfecter of faith" (Heb. 12:1-2a). Jesus holds the reward for the faithful. We must stay focused on our goal (Phil. 3:13-14).

Bad eyesight not corrected could turn into complete blindness. The spiritually blind are easily led astray if they do not seek the eye-healing light of Jesus (Matt. 15:14; 2 Cor.4:6).

Dedicate this new year 2023 to having a 20/20 focus on your spiritual goals, growth, worship, dedication, and outreach to others. Look to Jesus and let His word light your way.