

## **THURSDAY AUGUST 26**

### **THE EYES OF OUR HEART ENLIGHTENED**

**Ephesians 1:18**

**Our eyes are important for observation, viewing, for our hands and feet to function appropriately and to also aid us in discerning what may be good or bad. What our physical eyes are to us, so are the spiritual eyes or the eyes of our heart as Paul states.**

**Paul's prayer in Ephesians 1:18 was that the eyes of our heart be enlightened so that we would know the hope of Christ's calling and the riches of our inheritance in Him. The term "eyes of your heart" does not occur anywhere else in the New Testament. However, in the Hebrew, when the eye was used in this way, it usually meant to see, to understand, to experience, to be seen. The Amplified Bible states it in this way: "By having the eyes of your heart flooded with light."**

**Light was one of the first parts of God's creation (Genesis 1:3) and our life in Christ must start with light. "For God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6 HCSB)**

**We know that our life is in Christ and His life in us is the light we need in order to live for Him on a daily basis (John 1:4) and this comes through His Word. Paul's prayer was basically that the light we receive would make sure that our heart and understanding is right. As God's light is brought into our heart and understanding it does what light does...brings correction (light) to our heart and mind. As he went on, it was his desire that each one have an understanding of the hope that we have as we progress in our Christian walk and the riches of eternal life in Him. With our eyes being enlightened, we can earnestly strive toward that, pray for that and run the race to obtain all of that. It is our endurance that produces proven character and proven character produces hope. "This hope will not disappoint (us) because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us." (Romans 5:4, 5 HCSB)**