"Open My Eyes!"

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And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. (1 Cor. 8:2)

We, mistakenly so, often tend to think that we have pretty well circumnavigated the spiritual globe from about every tangent possible. Yet, the Scriptures denounce such an accomplishment by repeatedly informing us that we see through a glass darkly and that we know nothing yet as we ought to know.

The truth is we all are truly spiritually ignorant — we are very *nescient when it comes to the spiritual "big picture." One of the Apostolic prayers on our behalf was that we "May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge…" Ephesians 3:18-19.

Consider the English language. Most adult native speakers of the English language comprise a vocabulary that ranges from 20,000–35,000 of known words. The average child of age 8 knows about 10,000 words and the average child of age four already knows about 5,000 words. Adults learn almost one new word a day until middle age then their vocabulary growth basically stops.

The Oxford English Dictionary, the undisputed authority on English words, is comprised of about 294,500-word entries, and the number of word forms defined and/or illustrated is about 615,100. The OED 1997 Edition makes up 20 volumes and has 21,930 pages.

For every known English word by the average adult, there are well over 100 unknown words! Truly, when it comes to our vocabularies, we are beset with *benightedness! How much more so is this true concerning our spiritual awareness? We are often made to face up to our ignorance when we, like Job, exclaim, "Also can *any* understand the spreadings of the clouds, *or* the noise of his tabernacle?" <u>Job 36:29</u>. Indeed, the vastness of God and His kingdom knows no end, and when we grasp just a pinch of His eternality, our finite minds are soon overtaxed!

When we once become aware of our unawareness, we are able only then to become more aware. The pre-Columbus world was filled with not only an ignorance of the vastness of the unknown but also, they had constructed erroneous beliefs concerning the geography of the world — they were truly beset with benightedness!

We, as God's people, cannot afford to dwell in darkness and flounder about in our spiritual ignorance — we need to prayerfully seek for the <u>Luke 24:45</u> experience; "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures." Our needed and often prayer should be, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" <u>Psalm 119:18</u>.

The real essence behind the "I can't find anything to preach" syndrome is better stated in "I am so unaware of the depth, height, length, and breadth of the things of God." Once we become persuaded that we have plumbed the limits of spiritual knowledge then we truly have become ignorant.

*[Nescience (nescient) - benightedness —both words mean ignorance, lack of knowledge.]