

**GOD TRIES US WITH HIS EYELIDS, PSALM 11:4,5**

Let us go to Psalm, the eleventh chapter, and verses four and five for our thought for the day. And that is that God does try our hearts, God does test and try and prove the hearts of men and women everywhere.

The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth (Psalm 11:4,5).

When God sees that a person loves Him, then God spends special time, as it were, in planning and designing exactly the kind of tests and trials and sufferings and tribulations that we need in order to perfect us in Jesus Christ. Now, this seems to be rather a mysterious verse. How does God try us with His eyelids? In the natural, the eyelid is like a door to the window of your soul. Your eyes are the window of your soul. And your eyelids are the doors. So when we want sunlight in, we open the doors, and the sunlight streams in.

The natural types the spiritual. The pupil of the eye is likened unto an apple. God said that Israel was the apple of His eye or the very pupil of His eye. If we study in the Word of God, we find the apple represents understanding. So, beloved, the idea is this. That when God wants to shut off His Light that streams out of His countenance, out of His face to us, He just shuts the door a little bit. He tries us by shutting off the Light of understanding that streams out of His windows, as it were, that streams out of His eyes, and He leaves us, as it were, momentarily in a night season spiritually. He leaves us, as it were, momentarily in a day of darkness. This presents a great test and a great trial to a sincere soul that loves the Light, loves the Word, loves the presence of God.

And I can recall many, many times going through this experience as a new Christian and wondering what in the world has happened, what is going on. And I can remember so clearly even

Satan coming to accuse me and saying, “Oh, you have done some awful thing and God has turned His back upon you and He will never have anything to do with you again.” You see, I did not have enough Word and enough Light of the Word to know to have faith and to understand that this was part of God’s Way of testing and trying me. It is easy to walk when we are clothed and bathed in the Light of His Glory and the Light of His countenance and the Light of His understanding, but, beloved, that is a gift. And sometimes the Heavenly Father has to close the eyelid a bit and leave you to yourself, to see what you will choose when you are left all by yourself.

The idea would be more or less the same as a husband and a wife that would be separated. It is one thing to be true to your companion when you are together. it is another thing to be true when you are separated and no one is watching you, and you are left to your own private desires, and your own private decisions as a result thereof, likewise, in the spiritual. Jesus Christ is the Lover of our soul. He is the Heavenly Bridegroom, and it is one thing to walk with Him when He is smiling upon us with the Light of His countenance, and the windows of His face, as it were, were open and the eyelids are open, the doors are open, and the shutters are open, the window shades are pulled up and the Light is streaming in. That is one thing.

It is another thing when He closes His eyelids, as it were, a bit, and shuts off that Light and we are left then to our own personal opinion. We are left to our own personal decision. Do we still love Jesus? Is it that we love Him just when things are going well? We love Him when the blessing is there. Or do we love Him, beloved, when the Light is shut out and it seemingly, momentarily, in a time of darkness?

I do not care which church you go to. If you are a Christian, every Christian has had this experience of times when God has bathed their souls in the Light of His countenance. They have had times when it seems that God was a long way off and it seems that they were shrouded and

clothed with darkness. God does that to try the children of men, to see if we will choose Him, if we really want Him down in the bottom of our wills, to see if we want just His gifts of Light and Glory or to see if we want Him as a Person, to see if we love Him as a Person. If we do, then, beloved, we will choose Him whether it is Light or dark. So, God does try the children of men with His eyelids.

Of course, the eyelids have the eyelashes on them in the natural. And the word, the connotation in the Hebrew is the idea as an eyelash fluttering to cover like a set of wings. So our eyelids are sort of like a little set of wings, a little set of feathers and God used feathers and used the wings of the cherubim in the Mosaic Tabernacle to cover the *Shekinah* Glory. And God gave Lucifer wings when He stood upon Holy Mount Zion back in Eternity-Past to cover the Holy City. God gave Him wings to cover. So God gave fowls wings in the natural to cover from the wind and the rain, so God uses His eyelids with their feathers, as it were, the eyelashes, as it were, to cover the Light, to obscure the Light and to hide the Light, to see what we will do when we are left in darkness with our own will.

How beautiful to be in love with Jesus Christ. How beautiful that when we are tried, we find out that we love Jesus Christ down in our will, that we love Him as a Person, not just loving His gifts, but we love Him so much that we would rather wait and stand alone and wait for Him to return in His glorious Light than to go off after some strange lover, as it were, of this world or after Satan or after our own things and stand true to Him. So God is marvelous and wonderful and precious to try us.

The LORD trieth, present tense, the righteous. So this is not a verse that was to apply to some generation long ago. The word *trieth* is in the present tense. That is to experiment with us with darkness to see if we love Him in darkness or love Him just in the Light. Some people love just

when the Light is there. And God wants us to love, though, when the darkness is there. Then we can say we love God all the time, we love Him day and night. We can praise Him day and night. So, beloved, it is not enough to love Him in our spiritual day seasons, our spiritual Light seasons, we must love Him in the nighttime. We must love Him in the dark and for this reason He tries us with closing His eyes, as it were.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the faithfulness that You do test us and try us with darkness by closing Your eyes. Shutting up the windows of heaven, momentarily, that we cannot see which way to go to just try us to see if we will stand still and wait for Thy salvation and love You and praise You. LORD, bless these words of Light and Truth to the hearts of people in radio land today because we pray in the precious Name of Jesus Christ. Amen. ¶