

KEYS TO OPEN YOUR  
**SPIRITUAL EYES**



TWO WAYS GOD OPENS OUR EYES AND FIVE THINGS  
YOU CAN DO TO FACILITATE HIS INTERVENTION

**DR. PATRICK OBEN**

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## FIVE THINGS WE CAN DO FOR GOD TO OPEN OUR EYES



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## INTRODUCTION

After God opens your spiritual eyes, your life will never be the same. That's guaranteed. Visions from the Spirit of God are always turning points on the road to our destiny.

Many Christians desire to see beyond what their eyes perceive. They want to see the spiritual world. Most of them, however, don't know how to do that. They don't know what it means to have their spiritual eyes opened. Sadly, some Christians venture into reading books about the occult. This opens them up to demonic influence, which God's children should avoid like the plague.

The Bible not only has a great deal to say about spiritual insight but also tells us how God opens our spiritual eyes.

In the book, you'll learn what your spiritual eyes are, how God opens them, and the five things you can do to bring that about.

# CHAPTER 1

## **UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL EYES**

The eye is the organ of sight. With our eyes, we see, perceive, or become aware of things around us. *Perception* is, therefore, central to the eye's function. Furthermore, we experience life through our senses: to "see" is to live or experience something truly. That's why the Bible often uses the verb "to see" to stand for how we experience something (e.g., John 3:3).

### Three Types of Eyes

God has given us three kinds of eyes:

1. Physical eyes: the natural eyes.
2. Mental eyes: the ability of the mind, including the imagination, to know things.



3. Spiritual eyes: the ability of the heart to see or know spiritual things.

Our spiritual and mental eyes are in our hearts (our “interiority”), whereas physical sight resides in our bodies.

## Two Types of Spiritual Eyes

Spiritual eyes see spiritual things. They enable us to perceive, that is, to become aware of or know entities that inhabit the spiritual realm. For instance, in 2 Kings 2:17, Elisha's servant was awestruck to see a massive angelic army around Elisha.

The Bible identifies at least two types of spiritual eyes: the prophetic eye and the eye of understanding.

### 1. **The Prophetic eye**

This is the most common type of spiritual eye in the Old Testament. We find it throughout the Hebrew Scriptures: people saw God, angels, and denizens of the spiritual realm in different ways. A classic example, which we mentioned

above, is that of Elisha's servant, who perceived spiritual beings.

In the New Testament's Book of Revelation, we learn that John had visions of spiritual realities. We, too, have the gift of prophecy, which enables us as believers to see spiritual realities with our physical eyes (that is, in open-eye visions) or in dreams.

## **2. The eye of understanding**

Many believers are unaware of this type of spiritual eye, even though the New Testament frequently refers to it.

For instance, in Ephesians 1:15-18, Paul prayed that God would open the eyes of understanding of the Ephesians. He gives us a fascinating clue about the meaning of *eyes* in the 18<sup>th</sup> verse. He says that when their eyes are opened, they will see or *know*. Paul was praying for them to know or have that thorough experiential knowledge of God (*epignosis*).

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Here, seeing is *knowing* spiritual things. Understanding is the power of an eye to know them.

The prophetic eye and understanding, therefore, enable us to see or know spiritual things, but in different ways. Additionally, understanding and the prophetic eye are gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit.

Suppose God wants to open your spiritual eyes to have visions. In that case, He will either open your prophetic eye, as He did with John in Revelation, or open your understanding of His Word as with Paul, or both.

But how does He open our eyes? We will consider that in the next section.

## CHAPTER 2

# TWO WAYS GOD OPENS OUR SPIRITUAL EYES

In this chapter, we'll investigate God's role in opening our eyes; in the next, we will discuss how we can foster His intervention actively.

### Three Thoughts on the Opening of Eyes

Before considering examples of divine eye-opening, note three crucial truths:

1. The purpose of all seeing is *knowing*: whether through prophetic visions or by comprehending the Scriptures, we *know* when we see, perceive, become aware, or are thoroughly acquainted with something.
2. Above all else, God wants us to see Himself revealed through Jesus in the New Testament. He may show

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us spiritual things, even angels or denizens of the demonic realm, but He primarily wants us to see Jesus. No one ever saw Jesus and remained the same!

3. It is God, not we, who opens our eyes, but there are things we can do to prepare for His eye-opening intervention (see below).

For instance, we read that God opened the eyes of the Apostles. Paul saw Jesus in a prophetic vision (Acts 26:16-18) and through the eyes of understanding (Galatians 1:16). Similarly, the Apostle John saw Jesus in a prophetic vision (Revelation 1:12-13) and through spiritual understanding. (Think of the glorious revelation of Jesus in John 1!)

How will God open your eyes today? His Spirit, working with the Word, will open your prophetic eye and the eyes of your understanding.

### Opening of Our Eyes Through the Person and the Work of the Spirit

The prophets of the Old Testament were renowned for having the Spirit of God: only through the Spirit did they see visions. Thus in Joel 2:28, the Lord promises to pour out His Holy Spirit upon all flesh, which will enable people to see visions. He will open their spiritual eyes by giving them the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit can open *our* eyes in two ways. First, the presence of the Holy Spirit in us causes us to know God and other spiritual things. Since Christians have God's Spirit, they've been granted the ability to see, know, or experience God or the realm of the supernatural, just as Joel prophesied.

Second, the Holy Spirit gives us spiritual gifts, for example, prophecy, which enables us to have prophetic visions and dreams, or the gift of wisdom and understanding, which opens our eyes to see in His Word spiritual realities.

## Opening of Our Eyes through His Word

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God's Word is a spiritual eye-opener. By gaining insight into spiritual eyes, we can understand why God's Word acts like a mirror reflecting spiritual things back to us. It causes us to know God and things in the realm of the spirit, including angels and demons.

The Psalmist said:

*“The unfolding of your words gives light;  
it imparts understanding to the simple.”*

***Psalm 119:130 ESV***

Amazingly, God's Word doesn't operate alone but requires the Spirit to bring life. The Spirit opens our eyes by means of either spiritual gifts or His Word.

So, what can you do to prepare for God opening your eyes?

## CHAPTER 3

# FIVE THINGS WE CAN DO FOR GOD TO OPEN OUR EYES

*God* opens our spiritual eyes, but we can take steps to help encourage His intervention. Here are five of them:

### 1. **Receive God's Spirit**

The first thing anyone can do for God to open their eyes is to receive Jesus as their Lord and become His child. As God's children, God gives them the Holy Spirit as the Father's blessing—the One who opens eyes.

### 2. **Ask in Prayer**

As a child of God, you can pray that God open your eyes (Ephesians 1:15-18, Psalms 119:18)

### 3. **Activate Your Spiritual Eyes through the Fellowship of Prayer**

If you think your spiritual eyes are closed, I challenge



you to pray. You will be pleasantly surprised.

A healthy, powerful, and consistent prayer life will provoke visions. If your prayer life is on fire, your eyes will also blaze with open visions, divine dreams, and a sharper spiritual understanding.

#### **4. Opening Your Eyes by the Word**

God's Word is the Spirit's primary tool to open the eyes of our understanding.

Paul's vision of Jesus that turned the world upside down was not His prophetic vision of Jesus on the road to Damascus, but his vision of Jesus through understanding. His understanding of Jesus is mentioned in his epistles, specifically in Ephesians 3:4.

God is eagerly waiting for you to feed on His Word so that He can open your eyes!

#### **5. Eye-opening by Impartation**

When Moses laid hands on Joshua, he transferred the spirit of wisdom to him (Deuteronomy 24:9). That spiritual transfer is called impartation.

God continues to use impartation in the Church, and you should take advantage of it. Seek impartation from trusted, godly ministers who walk in the gifts of the Spirit.

## CONCLUSION

We've only scratched the surface of the scriptural subject of spiritual eyes. This has been a crash course on spiritual eyes!

If you want to transform your life, your eyes must be opened. There is the natural eye, but there is also the mental eye as well as its spiritual counterpart. And the spiritual eye can either be the eye of understanding or the prophetic eye.

God opens eyes through the Spirit and the Word, and you can encourage God's eye-opening intervention: accept Jesus to become God's child (if you're not yet saved), ask for it in prayer, kindle the fire of your prayer life, feed on His Word, and seek Godly impartation.

This is only the beginning, not the end! I've only laid the foundation. Grow in spiritual vision by building upon it.

Grow in the Word.

Grow in your fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

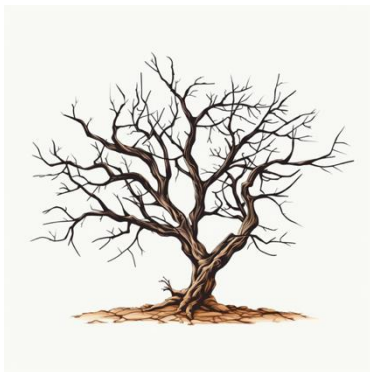
Fan the flames of your prayer life.

Open your eyes and see!

Having an open eye is only part of being prophetic. It's important to not stop there, but instead, continue to open your ears to hear God's voice and receive rhema (free e-book on the next page).

## TEN SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS TO WATCH OUT FOR

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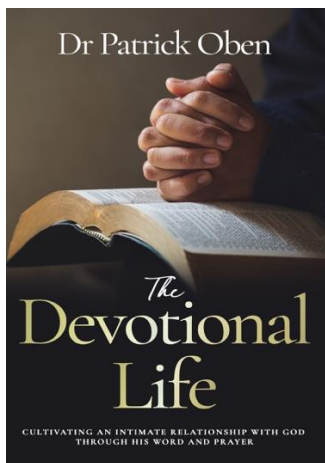


If you recognize any of these signs in your daily Christian life, you may be experiencing a common, yet often overlooked, condition known as spiritual dryness. This state occurs when a believer, akin to a tree, lives disconnected from the life-giving waters of God's presence.

1. A Hardened Heart
2. Spiritual Emptiness

### 3. More below

Here's a free resource designed to deepen your understanding of spiritual dryness, identify the ten most common signs, and, most importantly, guide you in breaking the cycle permanently in your life.



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## QUESTIONS?

You might have questions about some themes covered in this book or need clarity on some topics only briefly discussed. If so, please contact me directly using my email address below:

[patrick@patrickoben.com](mailto:patrick@patrickoben.com)

Also, please visit our website, which has over two thousand articles and devotionals to encourage, strengthen, and build up your spiritual life. Here is a link to our website:

[www.patrickoben.com](http://www.patrickoben.com)

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. Patrick Oben is a dedicated internal medicine physician and the founder of Patrick Oben Ministries, Inc. His teaching ministry focuses on helping believers develop essential skills, such as accurate Scripture interpretation and cultivating an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Balancing his dual passions, Dr. Oben cares for people's physical well-being through medical practice while nurturing their spiritual growth through his gift of wisdom and skill in teaching. Besides his clinical work, he contributes his medical insights as an Editorial Review



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Board member for the respected *Journal of Patient Experience*.

As a keen Bible student and teacher, Dr. Oben examines Scriptures and theological resources with a physician's precision. He is skilled in distilling complex biblical truths into clear, relatable insights. Dr. Oben lives in Ankeny, Iowa, with his wife, Maayuk, and their three beloved children.