

Suddenly Seeing—Slowly Understanding

And they remembered His words.

LUKE 24:8

Written by Bill Perkins

A person born blind who suddenly receives sight
has vision—
but they don't yet know what they're seeing.

Light floods in.
Shapes appear.
Color explodes.
But meaning takes time.

So they examine the world
with the senses they do understand:
they touch,
they listen,
they smell.
Slowly, their eyes learn
what their hands always knew.

Sight is given in a moment.
Understanding is learned over time.

This is what we must do with the Gospels.
We read,
meditate,
study His miracles,
ponder His prayers,
enter His parables,
trace His movements.

Because when Jesus opens our eyes
through the Holy Spirit,
we must examine all He taught and did
to see the deeper meaning.

Paul says the eyes of our hearts
have already been enlightened (Eph 1:18).
Not will be.
Not might be.
Have been.
A positional reality—
not always an experienced one.

The light is on.
The truth is visible.
But we must learn
how to interpret what we see.

This fulfills His promise:
“The Spirit will teach you all things
and bring to your remembrance
everything I have said to you.”
— John 14:26

The disciples heard Him clearly—
“I will suffer... I will be killed... I will rise”—
yet Scripture says:
“They did not understand the saying.” Mark 9:32
“It was hidden from them.” (Luke 9:45; Luke 18:34)

Why?
Because they expected a conquering Messiah.
Their eyes were open,
but their interpretation was wrong.

And isn't that us?
We bring assumptions.
We prefer the Jesus we expect.
We resist truths that confront us.
We want comfort more than clarity.
We read without depending on the Spirit.

Our eyes have been opened—
but we don't always know
what we're seeing.

So the Spirit teaches us
like newly sighted eyes learning to see:
examining Jesus' words,

studying His actions,
listening to His voice,
until understanding forms.

Reflection:

Where is the Spirit inviting me
to examine Jesus' words more deeply?

What This Means to Me:

The Spirit doesn't just give sight.
He gives understanding.

Father, thank You for opening my eyes.
Teach me to understand
what You have revealed.
In Jesus' name, amen.