MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 411 W. First Street/P.O. Box 321, Mtn. Grove, MO 65711, 417-926-4982

FAMILY NEWS - AUGUST 23, 2026

BIBLE STUDY: SUNDAY 9:00 AM; WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM; **WORSHIP**: SUNDAY - 10:00 AM & 11:15 AM
Ladies Class - Tuesday 10:00 AM
www.mountaingrovechurchofchrist.com and www.MGChristianRadio.com

WELCOME! If you are a visitor YOU are our honored guest!

THE EYES OF THE LORD (Part 1)

It was the 36th year of the reign of Asa, king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Asa was instrumental in maintaining pure worship before God. He removed his own mother from being queen because she had made an idol unto false gods (2 Chron. 15:16). In addition, he brought into the house of God the things that his father Abijah had restored to the temple. When the 16th chapter of 2 Chronicles opens we learn that Baasha, king of the Northern Kingdom, rose up against Judah. Rather than depend upon God for protection, Asa turned to Benhadad, the king of Syria, and sought an alliance with that idolatrous nation. The union was successful and Baasha retreated from his aggression. Asa may have won the battle, but he lost what might have otherwise been a blessing from God in the final overthrow and defeat of Syria itself. Hanani the prophet was sent to Asa: "Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the Lord thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thy hand" (2 Chron. 16:7). Hanani then makes this interesting statement: "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect before him. Herein has thou done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars" (2 Chron. 16:9). Please note the lessons from this record.

First, God has searching eyes. Here it is said that He is looking for those "whose heart is perfect toward him" (16:9). During the last days of the southern kingdom, Jeremiah was once instructed to "run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it" (Jer. 5:1). Those must have been trying times in the nation of Israel, when a righteous man was hard to find. The northern kingdom had already been destroyed because of the absence of the "righteous few" that might have preserved that nation. Jeremiah was instructed to take inventory and see if "a man" could be found in the streets of Jerusalem. Wickedness was rampant. For the most part Israel had become corrupt. But God would offer them another opportunity. "Jeremiah, see if you can find a man!" To be sure, God already knew the answer! The question was for Jeremiah's benefit, not God's. The hammer of judgment was about to be lowered on the city and the nation, and God wanted Jeremiah to know that the divine judgment was justified. Oh, the searching eyes of Jehovah God. Like the prodigal son whose father must have never ceased to look, our Father in heaven keeps searching for one more soul that is "perfect toward him."

Second, God has far reaching eyes. His eyes are said to run"to and fro throughout the whole earth" (2 Chron. 16:9). There is no hamlet, no small village, no isolated corner of this globe that can escape the penetrating look of the eyes of God. Surely the New Testament equivalent of this Old Testament passage are expressed in the words of the Hebrews writer: "And there is no creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Heb. 4:13). One wonders by the timing of Hanani's statement from God whether or not Asa may have attempted to make this "league" with Benhadad in secret. Men may perpetrate and perform their crimes in the dark of night where they THINK they can escape detection. Law makers and politicians may receive a bribe "under the table" in an effort to conceal their wicked deeds. The abortion industry may succeed in hiding the horrible nature of their crimes, and the thief who breaks through and steals in the dead of night might be successful in hiding their misdeeds from men. But our God sees all, and all will answer to the Almighty for their ungodly deeds.

Tom Wacaster, Tom's Pen, Posted May 8, 2026, https://tomspenonline.com/the-eyes-of-the-lord/
(Edited slightly - cac)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - **Jeremiah Hicks**
SCRIPTURE READER -**Jude Hicks**
PREACHER - **Keith Cozort**

PRAYER LEADERS:
SUNDAY - 9:00 A.M. - **Phil Driskill**
10:00 A.M. - **Brent LeBaron**
Matt Lawrence
11:15 A.M. - **Richard Sciba**
Wyatt Hicks
WEDNESDAY - **Brent LeBaron**
Jeremiah Hicks

SONG LEADERS:
SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M. **- Kevin Cozort**
11:15 A.M. - **Owen LeBaron**
WEDNESDAY - **Wyatt Hicks**

SERVING ON THE LORD'S TABLE:
PRESIDE - **Max Schmollinger**
ASSIST - **Terry LeBaron**
ASSIST - **David Grow**
ASSIST - **Ronnie Deaton**

USHERS:
SUNDAY AM1 - **Danny Lathrom**
SUNDAY AM2 - **Brian Sherrell**
WEDNESDAY - **Richard Sciba**

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED:
SUNDAY - **Richard Sciba -** 926-6416
WEDNESDAY -**Terry LeBaron -** 259-3261

BLESSED TO SERVE:
COMMUNION PREP -**Kazuko Tucker**
FLOWERS - **Sandy Peterson**

EVANGELISM PREP: August 23rd
GREETERS - **Rachell Howard**
PEW GREETERS - **Richard/Ruby Sciba**
Phil/Donna Driskill
VISITOR BAGS - **Logan Howard**

EVANGELISM PREP: August 30th
GREETERS - **Rachell Howard**
PEW GREETERS - **Brian/Jodee Sherrell**
Brent/Jessica LeBaron
VISITOR BAGS - **Grace Lawrence**

ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTION
WEEK OF - August 16th
SUNDAY CLASS - 31
AM1 - 56
AM2 - 41
WEDNESDAY - 28
CONTRIBUTION - $2001.00

MILITARY SERVICE -
Derek Davis family

Pray for our evangelistic efforts!

GOD'S PLAN: HEAR - Rom. 10:17; **BELIEVE** - John 8:24; **REPENT** - Acts 17:30; **CONFESS** - Rom. 10:9-10; **BE IMMERSED** - Acts 2:38; **REMAIN FAITH even in death** - Rev. 2:10.

Worship Leaders, please use the microphone so all can worship with you! Please silence all electronics. Children, please walk!

UPCOMING EVENTS:
*Aug. 23rd - All youth are invited to "Nacho Average Game Night" at 5:00 in the Annex. Bring a friend!
*Aug. 26th - Singing
*Sept. 6th - NO potluck, Youth Class rescheduled to November
*Sept. 11th - 13th - Fall Lectureship - **Strengthening The Heart** - Flyers are ready, be sure to invite your family and friends.
*Sept. 13th - Potluck to close our Lectureship

PANTRY ITEMS: Your choice. Thanks!

PRAYER REQUESTS
Linda Lawson - undergoing tests
Richard Sciba
Mike Lemons (customer of Phil's)
William Hicks (cancer, spouse of S & H coworker)
William Graham (Paytent's father)
Jeannine & John Vawter (Karene's family)
Kevin Robertson - home recovering from a stroke (Dorthy's son)
Levi & Emily Hicks - moving to Marion, IL next month
Larry Gray - heart and kidney issues (Cheryl's uncle)
Ann Lake - needs to see an orthopedic doctor
Doug Logan (recovering from a stroke - Ann Lake's nephew)
Jerry and Sharon Endicott - (Ruby's family)
Shirley Hart - (Ann Newton's sister - recovering from surgery at home)
Sandy Pendergrass - (Lyme's disease - Ann Newton's family)
Darrell Cooper (Sue's brother) liver cancer
Roy Boykin - (Tucker's friend) cancer
Jayne Kane - (Terry's sister), Joe Wyrick - (Linda's family)
Larry Hicks - (Jeremiah's dad)
William & Lavonne Wood - (Jodee's family)
Phyllis Coffman
Wayne Crosby
Betty Lane
Christians in Ukraine and Russia (war)

On-going health issues:
Matt Lawrence, Richard & Ruby Sciba, Alberta Steinert, Tinzie Mackey, Lois Schmollinger, Bonnie Wolfe, Ann Newton, Dorthy Robertson, Sheila Deaton, Buddy & Annette McCarty, Dwain & Sue Murphy, Effie Hicks.

WORKS WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO SUPPORT
On-line Academy of Biblical Studies (OABS); Bible Institute of Missouri (BIM); Global School of Biblical Studies; Shaddy Chapel church of Christ; Brent Green; Jesse Howard; David Bass (Instructor at the Jamaica School of Preaching).