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The Apple of My Eye

By Teresa Hampton

The Jewish idiom “apple of my eye” is used only a few times in scripture. In Moses’ final instruction to the Israelites he recounted the history of the people. He said God found Jacob in a desert land. *He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye* (Deut. 32:10). Zechariah prophesied to the Israelites that God would reap vengeance on the nations that plundered them, *for he who touches his people touches the apple of His eye* (Zech. 2:8).

The descendants of Jacob, the Israelites, were precious to the Lord. He chose them above all other nations as the one from whom the Christ would come. Even though they were rebellious and needed chastening, God patiently endured as would any loving father.

We Christians, who are the circumcised of heart instead of flesh, are also very precious to God (Rom. 2:28-29, Phil. 3:3). He redeemed us with the blood of His Son (1 Jn. 4:9-10). Yes, he suffers with our rebelliousness and out of love chastens us (Heb. 12:6).

God also provides for our needs more than any human father. Jesus said, *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. He reasoned, what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*

We are indeed very precious in the eyes of God our Father. Let us seek to please him in every thought and action, and pray with confidence knowing we are the apple of His eye!

Today’s Verse: *Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings* (17:8).

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