

SEEING – AFTER 51 YEARS

To Bob Edens of Columbia, South Carolina, yellow is amazing, but red is best – although he hasn't seen anything yet he didn't like.

Edens was blind for 51 years. Max Lucado, author and minister, tells about his miraculous turnaround in his book *God Came Near*.

Edens' world was a black hall of sounds and smells. He felt his way through five decades of darkness. And then, he could see. A skilled surgeon performed a complicated operation and, for the first time, Bob Edens had sight. He found it overwhelming.

"I never would have dreamed that yellow is so ... yellow," he exclaimed. "I don't have the words. I am amazed by yellow. But red is my favorite color. I just can't believe red.

"I can see the shape of the moon – and I like nothing better than seeing a jet plane flying across the sky leaving a vapor trail. And of course, sunrises and sunsets. And at night I look at the stars in the sky and the flashing lights. You could never know how wonderful everything is."



Grass is something Edens said he had to get used to. "I always thought it was just fuzz. But to see each individual green stalk and to see the hair on my arm growing like trees, and birds flying through the air, and everything – it's like starting a whole new life. It's the most amazing thing in the world to see things you never thought you'd see."

Bob Edens is right. Those of us who have lived a lifetime with vision can't know how wonderful it must be to be given sight.

But Bob Edens isn't the only one who has spent a lifetime near something without seeing it. Few are the people who don't suffer from some form of blindness. Amazing isn't it?

We can live next to something for years, but unless we take time to focus on it, it doesn't become a part of our life. Unless we somehow have our blindness lifted, our world is but a black cave.

(more)

One can live near a garden and fail to soak in the splendor of a flower. A man can spend a lifetime with a woman and never pause to look into her soul.

And a person can be all that goodness calls him to be and still never see the Author of life – the One who created the world and all that is in it. Being honest or moral or even religious doesn't necessarily mean we will see Him. No.

We may see what others see in Him. Or we may hear what some say He said. But until we see Him for ourselves, until our own sight is given, we may think we see Him, having in reality seen only a hazy form in the gray semidarkness.

To truly see and experience Him in all of his radiant glory and loving nature, we must ask him to forgive our sins, come into our hearts, and be the Lord of our lives. Then we see Jesus clearly.

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people (Ephesians 1:17-18 NIV).

– Beecher Hunter