

APPLE OF GOD'S EYE

Request: "I recently heard someone refer to someone's daughter as the apple of his eye and referred to it as a biblical phrase. Could you explain what it means in the Bible and is this type of reference correct?"

It is an OT biblical phrase. It consists of two Hebrew words. The Hebrew word for apple is **ishon** and it refers to the pupil of the eye. The Hebrew word for eye is **ayin**.

Apple of the eye – "Delicate part of the eye that is essential for vision and that therefore must be protected at all costs." (NIV, Deut.32:10)

We will study six aspects of the meaning of Apple of God's Eye as applied in the bible.
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1. Apple of the eye is a reference to the part of the eye that reflects what one is looking at in life.

Therefore when applied to God, it is whatever God is looking at from His presence in the Plan of God.

It is used four times in the OT. By studying these passages, we can discover the things in the Plan of God that catches His eye (in His sight). "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son (apple of God's eye)." (Luke 15:21) (**But read 15:20**)

2. We will examine the four passages in the bible that use the phrase, Apple of God's Eye.

Deut.32:10 (Song of Moses) (Deut.31:30-32:43) Divine agency of priest-nation of Israel. "He found him (Jacob) in a desert land, and in the howling waste of a wilderness; He encircled him, He cared for him, he guarded him as the pupil (apple) of His eye."

Ps.17:8 (Prayer of David) The spiritually advancing believer in Plan of God. "Keep me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of Thy wing."

Prov.7:2 (Warning against unfaithfulness) The doctrinal teaching of the Word of God. "Keep My commandments and live, and My teaching as the apple of your eye."

Zech.2:8 (Third of Vision of the restoration of temple / shadow Christology) - Faithfulness of God to His plan. "After glory He has sent me against the nations which plunder you, for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye."

3. Apple of God's Eye's is a biblical reference to the image of oneself as seen in the eyes of God and not necessarily as seen in the eyes of others like the Prodigal son of Luke 15.

One way God sees mankind as the Apple of God's Eye is that he is made in the image according to the likeness of God (Gen.1:26-27; 5:1; 9:6; 1 Cor.11:7).

Even in his fallen image as Enosh man (AOS) (Gen.4:25-26; 5:3) [Imperfect "Y" chromosome], positive volition at God consciousness makes him the Apple of God's Eye (Acts 17:26-27; Rom.1:18-23).

In the Gentile age, Enosh man began to call upon the name of the Lord to be saved (Gen.4:26; Rom.10:13-15; Acts 2:21/ Joel 2:32).

This was continued into the Jewish and Church ages (Gal.3:8; Rom.10:13-15).

4. Jesus Christ was the Apple of God's Eye as the Only Begotten Son.

Jesus Christ is both the incarnate Son of God and the second member of the Godhead (John 1:14, 18; 14:9; 1 Tim.1:17; Heb.11:27).

“And he is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation.” (Col.1:15-17)

“And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” (Heb.1:3)

“In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” (2 Cor.4:4)

“He is the image of God in which man was originally created and into which redeemed mankind is being gloriously transformed (3:18), until at last, when Christ comes again at the end of the age, we who believe will be like Him (1 John 3:2).” (NIV, 2 Cor. 4:4)

5. Every Church Age Believe (CAB) becomes the Apple of God's Eye based on positional truth of the New Creation in Jesus Christ.

“Therefore if (1cc) any man is in Christ (positional truth), he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” (2 Cor.5:17)

We will mention five different biblical orders of creation.

Dust (Gen.2:7) **Rib** (Gen.2:22) Procreation (Gen.3:16; 4:1) Virgin **birth** (Luke 1:34-35/ Holy Spirit)

New Creation (2 Cor. 5:17; Titus 3:5-7 and John 3:3-8)

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Eph.2:10/ 2:5-10; Rom.6:4)

6. The divine purpose of the new creation is to conform every CAB into the image of God's perfect Son, the Apple of God's Eye.

“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.” (Rom.8:29)

“And have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.” (Col.3:10; Eph.4:22-24; Rom.12:2; 2 Cor.4:16)