JEHOVAH'S EYES ARE UPON US

Note to the speaker:

Help audience to appreciate that God is not indifferent to what individuals do. Show how he reacted to wrong-doings in the past and why. Motivate audience to do what is right in God's eyes

MANY PEOPLE ACT AS THOUGH GOD WERE DEAD (4 min.)

Many, like Eliphaz of old, live their lives as if God were not seeing them or did not care (Job 4:18; Ps 14:1)

   Students and employees need to be watched, or they may cheat, steal, or loaf on the job
   (*g*86 6/8 10; *g*89 10/8 28)

   Such things as computer crime, shoplifting, tax fraud, and stealing employer's time have become common-place (*w*88 2/15 3-4)

Many people believe that God exists but do not believe that he cares or will take any action

   God is no longer a factor in their daily conduct or decision making (*sh* 329-30)

How much does Jehovah see and care about things on earth? Will he do anything about what he sees?

JEHOVAH SEES EVERYTHING (6 min.)

The Bible leaves no doubt that Jehovah's eyes are upon all of us (2Ch 16:9; Ps 11:4, 5)

Our recognizing that Jehovah keeps watch over the bad ones and the good ones should not make us feel as if we were living in a police state, under suspicion (Job 7:20; Pr 15:3)

Jehovah is watching for our good; capable of seeing every action (Zec 4:10; 1Pe 3:12; *it*-1 789)

All of this should serve as a warning to us—to be cautious

   Wherever we are, we are under observation from heaven

   Let us not think we will go unobserved in some secret place, not detected (Eze 8:12)

Jehovah observes the good and the bad that we do and takes them into account (Jer 32:19; Heb 4:13)

   What does he see in your case?

   Is your way of life approved by Jehovah?

   Is Jehovah looking upon you with favor?

JEHOVAH SEES THE BAD ONES AND TAKES APPROPRIATE ACTION (23 min.)

Stealing is usually done in secrecy with idea that no one is watching (Joh 3:19, 20)

   Achan thought he could keep his thievery secret. Jehovah exposed him and executed judgment (Jos, chap. 7; *w*86 12/15 19-20)

   Thieves are assured of Jehovah's curse as noted in the flying scroll of Zechariah (Zec 5:1-3; *pm* 210-11)

Pride and arrogance not tolerated in God's sight (Ps 5:5)

   Uzziah became haughty and usurped a priestly function; was stricken with leprosy by Jehovah (2Ch 26:16-21)

   God's punishment on those seeking glory for self was illustrated in his dealing with Shebna, Hezekiah's officer, who was preoccupied with building a glorious tomb for himself. Jehovah saw it and 'pushed him out' of his position and privileges (Isa 22:15-24; *it*-2 913 [Shebna]; *w*81 10/1 25-31)

Jehovah will destroy *those speaking a lie* (Ps 5:6)

   He takes note of them so that they do not escape punishment (Pr 19:5)

   When Gehazi lied as a result of greediness, God did not ignore it but punished Gehazi by afflicting him with Naaman's leprosy (2Ki 5:20-27)

Harshness, unkindness, ungenerosity given quick attention by Jehovah in Nabal's case

   Nabal was rich but harsh and ungenerous. He would not show kindness to David despite his loving help

   David did not need to take any action against Nabal for his unkindness. Jehovah dealt Nabal a mortal blow (1Sa, chap. 25)

Jehovah's hatred of *murder* and even the anger that leads to murder moved him to act quickly in counseling Cain to leave his murderous course. Jehovah then took immediate action after Cain killed his brother (Ge 4:5-7, 10, 11)

   Abimelech killed the sons of Gideon; Jehovah saw it, and justice was meted out by Him (Jg, chap. 9)

Joseph called *adultery* a sin "against God" (Ge 39:9)

   Eli's two sons were guilty of immorality and other sins. God determined to put them to death (1Sa 2:12, 22; 3:11-14)

   Zedekiah and Ahab, false prophets, continually committed adultery. Jehovah's judgment: The king of Babylon 'roasted them in the fire' (Jer 29:21-23)

   Fornication and adultery still most prevalent sins today

      Even servants of God fall prey

      Did they think that they could get away with such actions? that no one was seeing?

      The Bible shows that God is aware of misconduct and secret sins (*w*85 4/15 10-20)

These examples prove that Jehovah does not ignore the activity of bad ones but watches with judgment in view (1Ti 5:24)

JEHOVAH'S EYES ALSO WATCH THE GOOD ONES TO CORRECT, HELP, AND BLESS THEM (7 min.)

Jeremiah's secretary, Baruch, basically a good man, was sidetracked by *materialistic thinking* at a critical time in Israel's history. God warned Baruch: 'Do not keep on seeking great things for yourself.' (Jer 45:1-5) Jehovah was watching him for his good (*w*80 3/1 19-21)

Cornelius was helped by God because of many *good things he did* (Ac 10:2, 4)

He was rewarded with the privilege of being the first uncircumcised Gentile to be spirit-begotten (Ac 10:44-48)

Even small things we do that are good and may be unnoticed by men are noticed by God

In spite of his severe judgment against the house of Jeroboam, Jehovah gave one of Jeroboam's sons a burial because "something good toward Jehovah the God of Israel has been found in him" (1Ki 14:1-18)

Small contribution of poor widow did not go unnoticed (Lu 21:1-4)

Kind acts are remembered by Jehovah (Mt 26:6-13)

WILL YOU BENEFIT FROM KNOWING JEHOVAH'S EYES ARE UPON YOU? (5 min.)

When Jehovah corrects and helps you through organization or elders, do you appreciate his loving watchfulness?

Recognizing that Jehovah is constantly before us and is watching us will help us to keep from doing what is bad and to live as if in Jehovah's presence (Ps 16:8; *w*85 9/1 5)

Teach our children also to recognize that God is aware of our every activity (Ps 11:4)

If we do wrong, God sees it and will make it manifest (Pr 24:12)

If we do what is right, we have divine blessings and a share in upholding God's side of the issue that is now before the universe (Ps 18:20; Heb 6:10)

Above all, our love for Jehovah should make us want to do what is right so that Jehovah's eyes will see good in us

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read. Source material in parentheses need not be mentioned)

TO BE COVERED IN 45 MINUTES