

CLEAR SIGHTEDNESS

By Ian Menzies

Summertime and it's time to clean the windows. Our house is on the corner of a main and a dirt road. Passing traffic raises rifts of parched dry dust that settles itself on our windows and whenever an occasional summer rain or dew drop strikes quickly turns to streaks that trickle downwards and draw the eye from the view beyond.

The build-up is gradual, until suddenly how dirty the windows have become is noticed and a burst of enthusiastic washing is required. And what a difference it makes! Everything gleams and glistens, the world seems more beautiful and you

wonder why you didn't get round to this ages ago.

Sometimes our faith gets dusty too. Passing life gradually dulls our outlook and our attention narrows inwards. Fortunately, God notices, and something will spur us into a clear sightedness once again. It may not be much: a smile, a sunset, a kind word – or perhaps we notice a dullness ourselves and set about to do some reading or praying. We all view life through our own windows of perspective. We need to keep them clear and fresh to fully appreciate the wonder of life around us

Reflection:

A man that looks on glass, on it may stay his eye, or if he pleaseth, through it pass, and then the heaven espy.

George Herbert (1633)

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