

Wise Eyes

Two young boys, brothers, walked up to the banks of a river while on a camping trip. Surveying the wide river they both imagine themselves playing in the water. Just as the younger brother kicked off his shoes and started for the water, the older brother warned, "You'd better not go in; remember what dad said."

Hesitating, the younger replied: "It looks pretty calm to me. I don't see a problem."

With another reminder from the older brother, they stopped and spent their time skipping rock on the water.

What stopped them from going in?

They were the ones at the river. **They** had firsthand knowledge. **They** could see that there were no dangers, but they hesitated; they stopped. The voice of their father rang in their ears.

We are often like the young boys. We might approach life like a wide inviting river. We want to kick off our shoes and wade in without a care in the world. We see no dangers.

We stand at the side of the river; **we** can see that everything is safe. But our heavenly Father has warned us.

The boys could not 'see' the dangers their father knew to exist. Likewise, we often cannot 'see' the dangers that our heavenly Father knows to exist.

Fear stopped the boys; fear of their father. There was an element of 'scared' fear, but there was something more. They held their father in high esteem. There was trust and respect and an understanding of potential consequences for disobedience. Fear. Respect. Honor.

Reverence and *awe* are not merely worship words. They are descriptive of our view of God every day in all circumstances. Reverence and awe for God will be a protection from evil.

**Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.
--Proverbs 3:7**

Do you have 'wise eyes'?

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