

# Isaiah 42:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hear, ye deaf; and look, ye blind, that ye may see.

## Analysis

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God commands the deaf to hear and blind to look—a paradoxical call to those incapable without divine intervention. This emphasizes that only God can open deaf ears and blind eyes. The imperatives demand response while acknowledging dependence on God's enabling grace.

## Historical Context

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This addresses Israel's spiritual condition—though given the Law and prophets, they remained deaf and blind until God opened their understanding. It anticipates the Spirit's illuminating work.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing your spiritual deafness and blindness drive you to cry for God's opening?
2. What truths have you heard but not truly heard until God opened your ears?

## Interlinear Text

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לְרְאוֹת:	הֵב יָטוּ	וְהַעֲוֹר יָם	שָׁמַעַי עוֹ	הַחֲרָשׁ יָם
that ye may see	and look	ye blind	Hear	ye deaf
H7200	H5027	H5787	H8085	H2795

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 43:8** (Parallel theme): Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears.

**Isaiah 29:18** (Parallel theme): And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness.

**Isaiah 35:5** (Parallel theme): Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

**Proverbs 20:12** (Parallel theme): The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.