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As Different As Night and Day

#1125-A

Series: Making the Spiritual Switch

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As Different As Night and Day

Our Father,

We understand as we bow before You, what an awesome privilege it is to call Your Name, the Name that is above every name. The Name that one day before which, every knee will bow. The Name one day every tongue will confess Jesus Christ, Lord. Father, our hearts burst within us at the privilege of calling You Lord, because You died for us to live in us and You've prepared for us an eternal glory.

Our Father, we pray this morning, that we might lay aside all of the pressures, troubles, fears, and frustrations of the week just passed and that somehow, supernaturally, teach us by Your Spirit. Truly, Yours is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory. Speak to us this morning.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

The Scripture reads like this:

In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God [and one with God. In fact,] the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things [if you can, underline that word all, at least in your mind] were made by him; [in fact,] without Him, was not anything [even one thing] made that was made.

In Him [and only in Him] was life; [and the description of that life could be something like this,] and the life was the light of men.

And the light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. [It couldn't extinguish it; it couldn't overpower it; it couldn't stop it.]

There was a man sent from God, his name was John.

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men, through him [the Light] might believe.

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He [John] was not that Light but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

That was the true Light, the Light which lights every man that comes into the world. [Literally, the only source of light any man or woman will ever have.]

(John1:1-9 KJV annotated)

Have you ever spent, even a week, meditating on that passage? It says, “Look, there He is, the Light, the true Light, the One who illuminates, the One who causes to be filled with light, everyone who comes into the world. He came into a world crowded with darkness; a world that seemingly was overcome by the absence of light; the darkness trying to extinguish the light. It couldn’t. It tried to overpower the light. It couldn’t. It was overpowered instead. So, the Scripture goes on to say, the light shines on in the darkness, and it will shine, and it will shine, and it will shine until that day when the darkness is totally extinguished and the world will be flooded with light. Praise God! This isn’t some kind of fairy tale. This isn’t some kind of children’s storybook. This is the real thing. It is God’s account of an actual battle taking place right now in the heavenlies and on planet earth. It’s a first-hand account of a conflict going on between Satan and God for the souls of men.

It isn’t some kind of a play on words. It’s a real description of God—light. It’s a real description of Satan—darkness. It says God created light, because by nature of His being, He is light. He knew that the evil one was roaming this world seeking whom he may devour and he is the prince of darkness. And so, to amplify visibly in the physical realm what was going on in the spiritual realm, what you couldn’t see, God created night and day. He set up in the heavens two great lights. One great one, we talked about last week, this ball of fire, and one lesser light to demonstrate what living would be like with the light and with the darkness. It’s an important study. I’m going to ask you with me this morning, as you probably guessed, to make the spiritual switch.

I – THE MAGNITUDE

The passage we just read gives us a clue of how intense that warfare is. It’s a war between the kings of two kingdoms

and the stakes are high! The stakes are eternal! Everything is at stake. The King of one Kingdom is known as “The Life, and He represents Himself as the Light and He gives the Light and the Light gives life, but His primary attribute is Light and He is called, “the Light of men.” We learned at the beginning of John’s gospel, some things about man and the magnitude of this battle that we really need to look at. This is another one of those deals that I get kind of get excited about, so you just don’t worry about it. If I fall off the platform, that’s okay.

1- There is only one source of light. The Life, Jesus Christ, is the Light, (definite article, singular). There are no alternative light sources. No battery-powered back-ups. You either have Him or you don’t. If you have Him you have the Light. If you don’t have Him, you don’t have the Light, period. Got it? Believe it?

2- The reason Light comes into the world is to extinguish darkness, period. The Light shines on in the darkness and it never ceases its search to overcome the power that opposes it, and the power that opposes Light is darkness.

3- The powers of darkness cannot overcome the Light. That’s what the passage says—cannot. The darkness never can overpower the Light. It’s tried to put it out by executing the martyrs, and by trying to destroy the Scriptures. It’s tried to absorb it by camouflaging evil as truth and truth as evil. It’s tried to appropriate it using secular humanism to take the works of God and eliminate the cross, making man God and God man, but it doesn’t work and it never will.

4- The Light is available to whosoever will. (Verse 9) He came into the world to illuminate every person who will receive Him. It’s not a selective gospel, it’s an inclusive gospel, but it’s also an exclusive gospel. It’s available to whosoever will, but only to those who come.

So, there you have the parameters of the battle. See, all of these other wars and battles, and all these other computer-generated games are just foolishness. There is a real war going on out there, folks, and it’s invisible so we tend to overlook the gravity of it. Darkness/Light—nothing in common. Everything Light stands for, darkness opposes. Everything darkness is,

Light despises. You got it? That's why He used those terms. In other words, it's not two sides arbitrating to try to come to a peaceful compromise. This is a battle, beloved, and everything is at stake. And the magnitude is incredible. There is no living soul anywhere who doesn't owe his allegiance either to Light or darkness. That's what the Scripture says. There are many who pretend to be neutral, but God has clearly given no third option. Darkness/Light, day/night, either/or. Got it?

II – THE MESSAGE

So, what's the magnitude of it? The magnitude of it, is that it encompasses all of life; in fact, determines all of life, and the magnitude leads to the message and the message is three-fold. If you get nothing else, I've said this morning, please get these three points. You've heard them many times before, and you probably want to know why I am telling them to you again. Well, Jesus kept repeating them, so I think we had better, too.

1- There are then, only two types of people on planet earth: those who live in the night and those who live in the light, period. No one anywhere is in between. Now, you know that, but I want you to pause for a minute and I want you to think in your minds, (I think that's the best place to think). I want you to just let names run through your mind. Ask God to let names of neighbors who live near you, people you work with, relatives, friends, enemies, whoever. Now, just imagine all those names running through your mind and I want you to realize there are two boxes. Every one of those names has to go in one of these two boxes. There aren't any other boxes. You can make some other boxes, but they won't hold anything. Darkness/Light, saved/lost. I know, it's hard. That's the way it is.

2- There are not only just two groups of people in the world; everyone who does not know Jesus Christ as personal Savior lives in total darkness. I don't care how spiritual they seem, how religious they are, they are not in His box. There is no "almost light."

3- (For the 3 or 4 of you who are still there,) God is calling all men, everywhere to come out of darkness, into His marvelous light. There is no mistaking the gospel message. It isn't one

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of “reasonable arbitration.” It doesn’t picture God holding His hand out to Satan in an act of compromise. Satan’s kingdom is doomed along with all who live therein. “Except a man be born again, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God, (John 3:3) cannot, cannot, cannot. It’s an absolute.

Now, you may or may not believe those three statements, but for those of you that do, or want to, I want to repeat them one more time.

Statement 1: There are only two kinds of people who live in the world; those who live in darkness and those who live in the Light (1 John 1:5).

Statement 2: Whether or not a person is in darkness or in the Light, is determined only by one fact and one fact alone, whether or not they have come to the Light of Jesus Christ and been born again (John 8:12).

Statement 3: The gospel message is simple. Isn’t it great that it is? God is calling all men and women everywhere to come out of darkness, into Light (John 12:46, I Peter 2:9).

Boy, we can make it complicated, but didn’t God make it simple? Now, let’s see if we can determine why God made night and day the way He did. That’s just a little chart and there is a copy of it in your notes, to show you the difference between darkness and light and between night and day. The Scripture gives some specific parallels.

Darkness (Night)	Light (Day)	Spiritual parallel
unsuitable for work	right time to work	John 9:4
things hidden	things revealed	I Thessalonians 5:5, Ephesians 5:13
time to fear	time to hope	John 12:35,36
illustrates death	illustrates life	John 9:4, John 12:46
wearisome	comforting	Job 7:3,4

The Scripture teaches nighttime is unsuitable for work. It is a time when things are hidden which later will be revealed when the light shines on them. It’s a time when fear tends to reign because of the unknown; it’s a time when it’s used in Scripture as a portrait of death. It’s used as an example of hopelessness. The day on the other hand is used in

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Scriptures as a time for work, as a time when things hidden are revealed. As a time of hope, as an illustration of life, as a time of encouragement. Things look bad at night, don't they? We don't know what lurks around us. We don't know what to expect, and then the sun comes up and it reminds us of the faithfulness of God and the light sends its way into the inner recesses of our souls and we get revived again. Truly His compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23).

God had to have a demonstrable way to differentiate between these two kingdoms, light/dark. So, what did He do? He devised something so vivid nobody could ever mistake the two and to be sure man didn't lose hope, he put in the midst of the darkness a lesser light called the moon, a light that did nothing but reflect the greater light so man would not need to walk in total darkness as he waited for the light to dawn. Isn't that neat? Let's look at a little bit of the symbolism.

1- The night speaks of Satan's Kingdom. The Scripture tells us in Ephesians 6:12, that he is the ruler of darkness. Thus, the world as we know it, his present domain, represents the night.

2- The Light speaks of the Kingdom of God. He is the source of all light, the Scripture says. There is no light apart from Him and the time is coming when there will be nothing but light in heaven. There will be no night there (Revelation 22:5). Hallelujah!

3- When Jesus walked this earth the Light was present on this earth and he told them to take advantage of it.

Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. [Isn't that the truth?]

While you have the light, believe in the light.

(John 12:35-36)

4- The moon I think, if you'll imagine with me, among other things, makes a beautiful picture of the Holy Spirit who does not come to give its own light, but came as a reflector of

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the Son's Light, when the Son returned to the Father (John 16:13-14).

5- Then think of the stars, the tiny lights that flood the heavens at night when it's clear as we believers who are the light of the world and whose lights are to shine (Matthew 5:14-16). So, get that picture in your mind.



III - THE MENTALITY

Now, that's just touching the surface. We won't spend any more time there, but God, in the beginning, created night and day. He created the greater light to rule the day; the lesser light and the stars to shine in the depths of the darkness. And soon it became apparent why; because an evil one, an enemy, was going to come on planet earth and introduce death and darkness and the whole earth was plunged into night. And man, who was designed to live in eternal light chose darkness rather than light because his deeds were evil (John 3:19) and war began. Satan offered darkness to man and the accompanying deeds that take place there. God offered light and the accompanying freedom that takes place there. And then, God began to clarify that man would either live in darkness forever, or light could enter his soul in the person of Jesus Christ, and cast out the night.

God made it clear that the man or woman who receives light ought never again walk in darkness. There's no need to stumble into sin. There's no need to hide in the corner of the cellars of life and live a double life. Light has come! Life has come! And the world was to know that Light was here by the way those who possessed the Light lived. Do you know what that means? That means, wherever you work, wherever you

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teach, wherever you serve, wherever you play, wherever there are people, one Christian is enough to make the difference. One believer working in an office where no other Christians work can make a difference, because though the darkness attacks the light, the Scripture says, *it cannot overpower it, it cannot put it out, it cannot absorb it, it cannot appropriate it.* But there will be warfare, because it says the darkness is unreceptive to the light.

The whole issue of the Christian message has to do with whether or not we let our light shine. Our lives were not to represent varying degrees of shadows between darkness and light. Listen, compared to any unbeliever, any religious unbeliever, any well-intentioned unbeliever, any moral unbeliever, our lives were to be so different that they would be as different as night and day. That means total submission to the will of God; to the holiness of God; to walking in the Spirit. We have so compromised that in our day, that holiness has become a relative term and we wonder why the world isn't being converted; and we wonder why there's not a great revival in our generation as there have been in generations past. We don't need to wonder. The world will respond when they see the kind of difference between our lives and theirs, they were meant to see. We're supposed to be as different as night and day. But don't take my word for it. I'm going to stop now and just read the Scripture to you. I'm going to take and read what the Scripture says about light and darkness and you draw your own conclusions. Listen carefully, it'll take a minute, but I think it says it all. Matthew 5:14, Jesus speaking:

You are [not you can be] the light of the world. A city set on an hill cannot be hid.

Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel [sack], but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. [Take the lid off, let it shine.]

(Matthew 5:14-16)

Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day [or in the light] he stumbleth

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not because he seeth [where he's going, he sees] the light of the world. [He follows the light; he follows the word of God.]

But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him. (John 11:9-10)

Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

Walk while ye have light, believe in the light, that you may be the children of light. (John 12:35-36)

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness [anymore]. (John 12:46)

Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Be not ye therefore partakers with them [don't mess around with them].

For ye were sometimes darkness, [once you lived in the darkness but not anymore], now are ye the light in the Lord: [walk that way] walk as children of light:

(For the fruit of the spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

But all things are reproved [and revealed] are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. The only thing that can reveal sin.

Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, [I thought I don't know how much coffee you've had, but I started to shout that and see what would happen. I just didn't have the courage. My luck somebody would fall off a chair or something.] Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. [In other words, be born again.]

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See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

(Ephesians 5:6-16)

But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief.

You are children of the light, and children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of the darkness. [You can't be both.]

Therefore, let us not sleep, [that will be our class memory verse] let us not sleep as others do; but let us watch and be sober. [So, you can look at your watch, that's alright.]

For they that sleep, sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

(1 Thessalonians 5:4-8)

But ye are a chosen generation, you're a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; [you're a special group of people] that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you [what] out of darkness into his marvelous light:

Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God; which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. [Oh] dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, [stop messing around] abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul [quit it];

(I Peter 2:9-11)

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

And these things we write unto you, that your joy may be full.

(Listen up now, verse five, that's what it says, loose translation.)

This then is the message that we have heard of him, and declare unto you, it's the message we preach that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

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If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not do the truth:

[Ah,] but if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

(1 John 1:3-7)

By now I think you get the picture, night and day, as different as night and day. That's how different your life and my life ought to be compared with the life of any unbeliever. That's what it says. Let's look at some principles that evolved from those Scriptures.

1- We're to be the stars that shine in the firmament of our universe. We're to be responsible by the lives we live to demonstrate the person of Jesus Christ to an unbelieving world. Our lights must shine, so that others can see Jesus in us, the difference between night and day. And that it should be so pronounced, it should be so much His Holiness and not our works that what happens is they will see our works and glorify our Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:14-16).

2- We have no excuse for not living holy lives. Jesus said if we walk in the day, we won't stumble; we can see where we're going. We have the Light of the world to guide us (John 11:9-10). There is no need for God's child to walk in darkness (John 12:46).

3- We are not to fellowship with those who live in immorality. Scripture says we can excuse it when we lived in the darkness but we can't anymore. It's our job, by the holiness of our lives, to reprove sin; and sin is reprov'd according to Ephesians 5, when light is revealed.

4- Not only that, as children of the Light we should live sober lives, not yielding to anything that would wrestle control of our spirits from the Holy Spirit (I Thessalonians 5:4-8). It means you don't toy with sin; you don't mess with it. Even the slightest compromise that might alter our sobriety and our ability to allow God to control our lives, must give way to holiness. The lens must be clear, or the light can't shine.

5- Because we've been called as a special people, we have a special responsibility. We are called out ones who are a chosen

people and we have no choice according to the passage then, but to abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul. (I Peter 2:11).

6- And then finally, if we pretend to be God's people the Scripture goes on, and we continue to secretly walk in darkness, we are the most despicable kind of hypocrites. If we say that we have rich, abiding fellowship with God, but continue to live unholy lives, we lie and do not the truth. That's what the Scripture says (1 John 1:3-7). Hard stuff, isn't it? You spell it T-R-U-T-H. Truth.

The bottom line is, we have a holy calling from God and it's not a calling just to be busy. It's a calling to spend time in the presence of God until His Holiness literally infuses our lives and shines forth from our hearts; and through our lives into the lives of everyone we touch—a life that is so pure that no matter where we go, the Light shines in the darkness.

IV – THE MINISTRY

It really only leaves this one conclusion: if the magnitude is of such proportion that all eternity hangs in the balance, and if the message is such, that there only two categories of people in this world, those who live in the Light and those who live in the darkness. And if the mentality of our lives is to be that we are to shine as lights in a world dominated by darkness, then we can't leave the subject without looking at the ministry produced by that mentality.

With that we close. (This is that part of the lesson you wait for where you say in conclusion, and then wonder what that means.) In Matthew 4:16, you read a quote from Isaiah 9, which says “As the people sat in great darkness, they saw a great light. And to them which sat in the region in the shadow of death, light has sprung up.” Can't you just picture mankind enveloped in the darkness, hovering in the night with no hope, and then off in the distance, a light begins to emerge, and it gets, brighter and brighter and brighter and it comes closer and closer and closer and finally man looks up in he's virtually enveloped by the light which is casting out the darkness and a voice says, “I AM and I love you.”

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In John chapter 8, Jesus said,

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life. (John 8:12)

We have a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well to take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, [until the day starts up] until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: (II Peter 1:9)

Beloved, we have it. We have the Light. We are possessors. We are stewards. We are transmitters. We are like giant transformers that take the power, and provided we don't let sin build-up resistance in the coils, the powers multiply and it radiates to a lost and dying world.

But only once we understand the issue; and the issue is that everyone you meet is either saved or lost. And every person in your block is either a child of God or is under the influence and control of the enemy. Every person in your office where you work either walks in darkness or walks in the light. And how religious they are, how moral they are, how successful they are, not only are not the issues, they are smokescreens that hide the real issue. The real issue is whether or not that person has recognized they live in darkness and come to the Light of the world for salvation. Unless they've been born again, they will never see the Light.

That is not popular theology. It never was. It is not even prevalent theology, beloved. But it is accurate theology. In fact, it's the basis upon which all theology should be built. No matter how long you live, you will only meet two kinds of people; those who are saved and those who are lost. Those who are saved possess the Light. They may or may not be walking in the Light, but if they've been born again, they possess the Light and one day they will live in the Light in a city where darkness does not exist. Everyone else fits into the second category. They may be preacher, priest or rabbi. They may teach Sunday school, Monday school or seminary. They may write books on theology. They may give to the poor. They may live an exemplary life, but unless they have come to the Light, they live in darkness and are bound for an eternity in

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darkness and will never see the light of day.

That's why God created night and day. He wanted you and He wanted me to realize the incredible difference between heaven and hell, between darkness and light; and knowing God and not knowing God. He wants us to realize it would be as different as night and day. One day every person you know and every person you don't know who has never personally received Christ as their Savior will die and enter into an eternity of total darkness. They will never see the Light of the World. They will never taste the joy of heaven. They will never feast on the awesomeness and the glory of God. Forever and forever they will dwell in eternal darkness where the fire is never quenched and the worm never dies. They will never know the absence of pain. They will never know the freedom from sin. They will never know the end of suffering; not now not ever. On the other hand, every person, you or anyone else leads to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ; who opens their hearts and invites Him in will spend an endless eternity in the presence of total, complete unending Light; Light so bright we will need new eyes to behold it. Free from sin; free from pain; free from suffering. Now folks, that's not a little bit different, it's as different as night and day. And no one anywhere is in between. Not that nice agnostic who lives down the street. Not that pleasant atheist who works where you work. Not that religious non-Christian who lives to further his religious pursuits. None of them are between night and day. Without Christ in their hearts they live in the night, with Christ they live in the Light. That's why we go back to 1 John 1:3 for our message, and I repeat it one last time.

That which we have seen and heard, declare we unto you, that you may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

This then is the message which we have heard from him and declare unto you [it is a simple message, it says this] that God is light, and in him is no darkness [not] at all.

(I John 1:3-5)

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Folks, that's what it's all about, that's what night and day are there to remind us of. That's what the sun says when it awakens us in the morning out of the darkness into the light. "Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come."

What are we going to do with the message, the message of night and day? We can grumble over it. We can be confused by it. We can even be excited by it, but what we ought to do is share it with every living soul we meet until God takes the shadows of eternity and draws the curtain on this life, gathers us up into His arms, into that marvelous Light we know as His glory. If we fail to do it, we fail to be what we were called to be. We were called to be lights in a world where darkness prevails.

My friend, the choice is yours, and the choice is mine. Every time the sun comes up, every time a new day dawns, we have a living reminder of the eternity that we are about to share with God. And every time the sun goes down and darkness envelops the earth, we have a living reminder of the eternal death those who know not Christ are about to experience. And every time, in the midst of that darkness, our eyes glance heavenward, and we see those stars, crystal clear in the heavens, shining into the darkness, we have a living reminder of our calling. Our calling is to be lights; to tell people that Jesus Christ is the difference between heaven and hell. And we're obligated to tell them what kind of difference it is. It is as different as night and day.

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Oh, the clarity of truth;
And, oh, God's better way,
He chose to make it crystal clear,
As clear as night and day.

Woven into life's great plan
To picture living light;
God designed for earth to have
Distinctly day and night.

And then in Scripture's portrait,
Clearly, He engraved
That night and day were pictures
Of being lost or saved.

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Oh, dear friend, be not deceived,
There is no better way
To understand salvation;
It's either night...or day

Let's pray.

Our Father and our God, as we close this morning, we pray that in the silence of our hearts, if there be even one person listening on tape, or here with us this morning who may be Christianized, but has never personally gone from darkness to light—from night to day, maybe this moment they can confess their sins; confess their need of a Savior and cry out in their hearts to the living Jesus and ask Him to come in.

Father, we pray that those of us, as Christians, might examine our hearts. If we are pretending to be living in the Light but holding on and clutching at deeds of darkness in our hearts, that we might confess those even this moment, and ask to be lifted out of the mire of compromise into the freedom of holiness.

And lastly, Father, our prayer is that every single one of us as we leave this place, might envision going out rather than in the sunlight, into a world of darkness even as it will be tonight; and a Light within us shining through us being the only lights the rest of the world has to see the truth and to find their way home into the presence of truth. And may that thought permeate our hearts as we go into the marketplace tomorrow, that we are indeed the light of the world.

To Jesus, the true Light be all praise and glory, Amen.

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A Challenge to Further Study

1- Paraphrase (write in your own words) John 1:1-9. Who or what is “The Word”? Who or what is “The Light”? Who was John? What does “All things were made by Him” mean? What absolutes can you glean from this passage? What does the word “darkness” mean? What does it mean when it says “The darkness comprehended it not”?

2- Do you believe that all of mankind falls into only two categories? See if you can find at least three passages of Scripture that confirm that.

3- If there are only two categories of people, can you find three verses that confirm that there is only one difference between the two groups?

A Challenge to Further Application

1- If the whole of life depends on whether or not men come to The Light, and we are the reflectors that draw them to The Light, we ought to never be satisfied to have our lights hidden under a bushel basket. How visible is your light? How decidedly different are you? (Not how odd is your behavior, but how pure is your life?) Is your heart so filled with Jesus that others literally see His reflection in your countenance? In your responses? In your choices? Is the fruit of the Spirit so real in your life that the source of that fruit draws men to Christ?

2- What does “abstaining from fleshly lusts which war against the soul” have to do with being called “into His marvelous light”? How willing are you to remain separate from those things that defile in order for others to see Christ in you?

3- Ask God to make the concept of light and darkness real to you. Ask Him to show you that all men and women are either living in the light or in darkness. Ask Him to burden your heart until you cannot help but let your light shine.

A Challenge to Scripture Memory

Matthew 5:14-16

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(09.02.20.dvd)