

Darkness Versus Light

by Wayne Goff

The world understands very well the principle that the New Testament often *graphically* illustrates: **darkness (evil)** versus **light (goodness)**. In the Star Wars movies, Darth Vader wears the black suit. “Dressing a villain in all black is one of the most basic symbols there is, (But) the suit does not just support Vader’s life; it takes away all outward signs of his humanity. He is faceless and expressionless...” (www.scifi.about.com).

Ignorance

In the New Testament, “**darkness**” can symbolize ignorance. “*The people who sat in **darkness** have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned*” (Matt. 4:16). Light, on the other hand, symbolizes truth, wisdom, understanding and virtue. Jesus references the “eye” as being healthy when it fills the body with light, and inefficient when it isn’t operating properly, leaving “*your whole body ... full of **darkness***” (Matt. 6:23). Hell is the ultimate absence of God, truth, and right, thus Jesus calls it “**outer darkness**” (Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30).

So Jesus warns us all, “... *saying, I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life*” (Jn. 8:12).

How many will face God in the Judgment Day with the excuse, “But I didn’t know!”? Jesus came to save the world from sin and gave us the New Testament, His “*perfect law of liberty*” (James 1:25) that we might know! But how many people willfully neglect that book of knowledge? Why? Because, as Jesus said: “*And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness** rather than light, because their deeds were evil*” (Jn. 3:19).

Reign Of Evil

When Satan was permitted to have a temporary, limited authority over the life of Jesus Christ at His crucifixion, “*from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was **darkness** all over the land*” (Matt. 27:45). To those who came to arrest Him, Jesus said: “*When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. **But this is your hour, and the power of darkness***” (Lk. 22:53). God permitted the reign of evil at this time that He might destroy the Devil through the death of His only begotten Son! But what a dark hour it was in human history just the same!

Jesus’ life and crucifixion conquered sin, death and Satan, that “*whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness*” (Jn. 12:46). The honest, sincere, truth-seeker will come to the Light!

Judgment Day Revelation

Paul warned those who would harshly judge him. He said in 1 Corinthians 4:5: “*Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both **bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts**. Then each one’s praise will come from God.*” God will judge all men fairly, and expose the hidden counsels of the heart!

Walk In The Light!

Just as we enjoy a beautiful, sunny day full of rich blue skies, so should we, as God’s creation, enjoy the beauty of living as God made us to live — in truth, righteousness, fairness and holiness! “*For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light*” (Eph. 5:8). Nobody in their right mind wants to live in the blackness of darkness forever! Christians are “*a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you **out of darkness** into His marvelous light*” (1 Pet. 2:9).

“This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” (1 Jn. 1:5).

Dear reader, won’t you come to the Light of God’s Word and walk in the light of God’s counsel?

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