

A Lamp & Light

It is beyond question, to the Christian, that this world is filled with darkness (Jn. 1:5). Sin and self are the cause and king, not salvation and the Savior. Yet, we are not doomed to live in darkness. The Psalmist said, "Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path" (Psa. 119:105). If we desire to "see" we must first have the light. One is blinded by the god of this world before he hears and obeys the gospel of Christ (2 Cor. 4:4). Those who follow Satan live in darkness. Surprisingly, some love it this way (Jn. 3:19-20). They want to live in sin and are repulsed by any light that would invade their life. There are others, few, who want the light and seek it. They want to rid themselves of this spiritual blindness, and realize the way to do it is by the word of God (Eph. 1:13-14, 18; 5:8). However, there is a threat to these.

When one has been turned "from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God" he must be diligent to continue to seek the light (Acts 26:18). The saints at Ephesus were warned about allowing the old man of darkness to continue and exhorted to put on the new man who walks in the light.

This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness (Eph. 4:17-24).

The Bible does not teach, "Once in the light, always in the light." We must "walk as children of light" and "walk in the light as He is in the light" in order to have fellowship with God (Eph. 5:8; 1 Jn. 1:7). There is a narrow way which is illuminated by the word of God (Matt. 7:13-14; Psa. 119:105). We must walk on that path. If we begin to allow darkness to creep back into our lives, that path of righteousness begins to fade from our sight. Therefore, we must be diligent to remain in the light. To abide in the light, we need to look to the Light of the world, Jesus Christ (Jn.

1:4; 8:12). The only way one can find the Light of the world is to look to that which reveals Him, the word of God (cf. Psa. 119:105). So, let us be determined to study and meditate upon the precepts and principles of God's word. Let us give ourselves to searching the Scriptures daily, lest darkness invade our hearts (Acts 17:11).

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