



Darkness and Light - Part II

Last month, we ended the Artios letter with a discussion of contrasting aspects of darkness. Let's continue with more of these scenarios in this final Part of Living with Darkness.

LIGHT

Matt.6

[23] But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

Eye refers to one's understanding. Old Testament believers did not have the same spiritual perception that we are allowed. The word eye is singular, meaning, in part, that these



guys didn't have spiritual depth perception. More emphatically, they didn't have spiritual understanding. *A person's whole understanding can be overtaken by darkness, thus making that person very evil.*

ARMOUR OF LIGHT

Rom.13

[12] The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

The armour of light is a Christian's true weapon against the works of darkness. Just as the works of darkness can clothe a person, so too can the armour of light. Once again, we are talking about something spiritual, specifically, the manifestations of holy spirit. As you learn to walk by the spirit of God, you will be putting on the armour of light! Where can darkness be found?

THE PLACE OF DARKNESS

Darkness has a dwelling place. So, too, does light. It can be found in life's journeys if deliberately sought after. Quite often, darkness finds people.

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Job.38

[19] Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof,
[20] That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths to the house thereof?

Light and darkness have dwelling places. They are both bound by God's own doing. This means that they have boundaries surrounding them.

Isa.42

[7] To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

Darkness can be like a prison house. It is home to many people and spirits.

And ...

Isa.49

[9] That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves.

When people are in a prison of darkness, they can't see, but they also can't be seen (although God can and does reveal these to you). It's a pretty sad state of affairs. It takes all the oomph out of wanting to live life to its fullest. It makes people sit still.

The destination of darkness has different parts or regions.

Matt.8

[12] But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Here, we learn of outer darkness. It is a place reserved for some deserving people.

A land of the shadow of death.

Isa.9

[2] The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Can you imagine living in a state of constant bombardment with death? You may think that you do sometimes, but, trust me, you don't. *In this land of darkness, there is an ever present shadow of death.* The land of darkness is also called the land of the shadow of death.

Luke 1:

[78] Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,
[79] To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

In Luke, we learn that those who

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are not born again live under the shadow of death. That's pretty amazing. *Every time you get someone born again, filled with the spirit of God, you deliver them from the land of darkness and from the shadow of death!*

A land of darkness is mentioned in the book of Job.

Job.10

[21] Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death;

[22] A land of darkness, as darkness itself; and of the shadow of death, without any order, and where the light is as darkness.

Here, God equates darkness and death in the same verse.

Pss.74

[20] Have respect unto

the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

It is interesting to note that darkness and cruelty are used together. Cruelty is a manifestation of darkness. It is an entity that dwells in darkness. When and where you face cruelty, you are then face to face with a manifestation of darkness which found its way out of the dark places of the earth. Please keep in mind that this is talking about spiritual entities, not physical entities. *Darkness is a spiritual realm* and it is here where darkness is allowed to have a land or a place.

Pestilence and destruction are more manifestations of darkness.

Pss.91

[6] Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

The origins of all manifestations of darkness are spiritual in nature. This is true for both pestilences and destructions. While they may seem sense-knowledge in nature, their origins or beginnings are not. They originate from the land or source of darkness. I would join the two previous sentences: While they may seem sense-knowledge in nature, their origins or beginnings originate from the land or source of darkness.

Sorrow is another manifestation of darkness.

Isa.5

[30] And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if one look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.

Any time you run into sorrow, you know now that it is a manifestation

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of darkness. Moving from contrasting aspects of darkness, let's now learn of Christianity's role in darkness.

DARKNESS AND CHRISTIANITY

Christians have been called out of darkness. We were all born into darkness, but once born again, have been delivered out of darkness.

1Pet.2

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

No matter how you feel, how others treat you, you are always basking in God's marvelous light!

If you believe in Jesus Christ, you shall never

abide in darkness.

John.12

[46] I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

When people live in darkness because they don't yet have Jesus Christ in their lives, they have to be turned from darkness to light.

Acts.26

[18] To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

As New Testament Christians, we are privy to far more spiritual information than the Old Testament believers had access to. Acts 26:18 tells us that darkness is akin to the power of Satan, and sins, and

dearth (a lack of inheritance). This kind of darkness is not the same darkness associated with God. It is a spiritual darkness that is wicked, evil, sinful, and void of any form of godliness. Christians have the ability to turn people from it to light.

Rom.2

[19] And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,

Keep in mind that darkness exists today, a darkness that envelopes people – those who are spiritually blind. *Only the light of Jesus Christ can guide this sort out of their prison of darkness.* No other light will work.

LIVING WITH AND IN DARKNESS

Children of light can counteract

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Darkness.

Eph.5

[8] For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

Dark works can be reprov'd.

Eph.5

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

We can wrestle with the things of darkness.

Eph.6

[12] For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places [from on high].

We don't wrestle against things in the senses realm. We wrestle

against things from the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness from on high. Knowing this should set you free from all kinds of worries. Even if you get into a sense knowledge fight, battle, or otherwise, and think that it is really bad, evil, or wicked, know this: *your real battle has nothing to do with any of that. It has all to do with the things that you cannot see, things that are not of the senses realm – principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world and against spiritual wickedness from on high!* The Christian's battle is a spiritual one.

God reassures us that we are no longer of darkness.

1Thes.5

[4] But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day

should overtake you as a thief.

[5] Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

We are children of light, children of the day!

The two realms today are the realm of darkness and the kingdom of Christ.

Col.1

[13] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son [by the son of His love]:

Once you are born again, you have been delivered from any and all powers of darkness because you have been removed from that darkness and placed within Christ's kingdom! You are completely safe.

No spiritual force in the world can conquer you because you belong

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to Christ.

1Pet.2

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

What a fantastic verse to close with. We were all living in darkness, not necessarily in the land of darkness, but with a darkened understanding and knowledge of God. God called us out. He asked us to believe and we believed! As a reward for this, we now live in His marvelous light. After learning about the different biblical aspects of darkness, this truth is nothing short of exhilarating! I suppose some refreshment is in order. Looking into the realm of darkness is a bit foreboding, heavy, and undesirable at best. But you know that it exists and you know many things about it

now that you didn't know before.

The land of darkness is a creepy place, a place where you don't belong and can no longer go.

Yet, darkness can and does attempt to manifest itself into you and your family's lives. Even though it can never overtake you, it still does exist and still does try to ruin a perfectly good day. If you keep things straight, realizing that, because God divided light and dark, you have an advantage, you will be just fine.

Stay on the light side, walk in light, speak the words of light and life, believe them and give them to others.

If and when darkness manifests itself around you, reprove it. Tell it to go away, to leave. It has no rights around you or those you love. Don't be afraid of it. You have no need to be afraid. If you need to turn up the light to push darkness

back, do so. Reprove it. Pour God's Word into you heart and life. You will see many positive results by doing so. Darkness is no longer something abstract to you. Live your life accordingly. Press on into the kingdom of Christ and walk as a super-abounding, spirit-filled Christian of LIGHT!

Much love in Christ!

Jerry D. Brown