

Wednesday in the Word

Digging Deeper

October 13, 2021

Light vs Darkness

1 John 2:7-11 KJVS

[7] Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

[8] Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. [9] He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. [10] He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. [11] But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Darkness. Christians know it well. It is the state we occupied prior to coming to Christ. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. It is also a force that occasionally visits us. James 3:14-4:4. Yes, that is written to believers. Consider the following as well. 1 Corinthians 10:13, Romans 12:21. Matthew 15:19. Dark thoughts they are! They don't affect most of us but they do trouble some. Pray for brothers or sisters who struggle with these things. We can all, at times, hit a spiritual low when seemingly simple, everyday issues weigh us down and darkness invades us. We may respond emotionally or feel down. We must recognize the attack and turn quickly to the Lord. Trusting God pleases God. Remember; Ephesians 6:11-13. Yes, we come under attack. Our only proper response is to honor God which is the one response the enemy hates. The unsaved abide in darkness but do not know it. John 3:18-20.

What can we learn about darkness? Hebrew; chōshek; the dark; darkness; figuratively; misery, destruction, death, ignorance, sorrow, wickedness, obscurity. It was the state of the newly created earth, absent God's first proclamation. Genesis 1:2. It fell upon Abram prior to God's covenant revelation. Genesis 15:12. It was a convincing plague for Pharaoh. Exodus 10:21-24. Here we see the intense symbology associated with it. Job 3:3-5. Darkness, though it symbolizes evil, has no power or substance. It's literal existence is simply the absence of light.

Light has a definition. Hebrew; ore; illumination or luminary in every sense including lightning happiness bright clear day light morning sun. Scientifically: Light or visible light is electromagnetic radiation within the portion of the electromagnetic spectrum that is perceived by the human eye. Visible light is usually defined as having wavelengths in the range of 400–700 nanometres, between the infrared and the ultraviolet. OK, that was not necessary. For all their effort, science can measure and describe light but cannot clearly define it. Their theories claim it's existence without understanding its method of generation. Light is pure energy and often exists apart from any physical process. God spoke light into existence as the initial work of His first Word. Genesis 1:3. For all the talk of photons and waves, light seems best resolved as a part of the very character of God. Jesus had a definition of His own. John 8:12, 12:46, Acts 9:3-5. In all of our biblical understanding of Light and darkness, some of the best knowledge comes through the contrast of the two. Genesis 1:4, Psalm 27:1, Isaiah 9:2, 45:7. Jesus left His ongoing teaching in the hands of His Apostles as they were inspired of the Holy Spirit to deepen our insight into His Light. Consider these; Ephesians 5:8, 1 Peter 2:9, 2 Corinthians 4:6, John 3:19-21.

Let us return once again to that road to Damascus. Acts 26:15-18. Paul, here was sharing his faith with King Agrippa, defending and convincing him of his sincerity towards the gospel. Drop down to verses 28-29 to see the result. We cannot convince all we meet but we must always be ready to try. 1 Peter 3:15. Finally, a very humbling thought greets us in Matthew 5:14-16. Jesus has placed on us, His responsibility of shining into the darkness. If we are right with Christ then we are reflectors of His Light. Honor Him and shine. If you are alive, you are able. God bless.