

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

from Pastor Daniel Randall

Jesus proclaimed the truth about himself and he loved the world too much to leave us in the darkness of worthless ritual and pagan superstitions. He was on a mission from God that eventually would take him to the cross.

Why was his message so important? Because darkness is such a terrible thing! Physical darkness makes it impossible for us to know where we are going. The dark is frightening. Imagination runs wild. We suppose "monsters" are nearby, eager to harm us.

Fear of the dark is not merely a childhood experience; it can last a lifetime. Over the years there have been many times when, seized by fear in the dark, I have wished for God to appear as a pillar of fire as he once did for the Israelites.

Spiritual darkness is worse. It blinds us to the truth. The Pharisees were living in darkness without realizing it. They could not "see" the Truth when He stood before their eyes! How pitiful!

Jesus offers us the privilege of walking in the light of life. When we do our minds are no longer dimmed by the darkness of sin and guilt, death and sorrow. We "see" the forgiveness God offers us in Jesus. We understand that he sets us free from our past and shines the light of his love on our pathway to a new future.

Most people who truly believe that Jesus is the light of the world feel compelled to share this message with those who live in darkness. Millions are lost in the darkness of ignorance and superstition; they worship a false "god" who is pleased by their violence. Some have never heard of Jesus. They do not know that by trusting Jesus they can walk in the light of life.

Those who walk in the light can find great joy in sharing the light. If you were with a group of people lost in a dark cave, and you found a flashlight, you would be thrilled to help the others escape the darkness.

The Bible calls the people of God the children of light. And as long as even one person remains lost in spiritual darkness, God's people have a compelling mission - to share the good news that darkness is no match for Jesus. So children of light, let your light shine for it will conquer the darkness!