

Ministry of The Holy Spirit
Prison Letters
Ephesians 5:8-14

Perilous times...spiritually fierce times

How do we keep pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in
Christ Jesus in a very disturbing and deranged world?
How to keep our bearings in an insane world?

We follow Jesus

Last week...as we fight the good fight of faith in a world convulsing like a woman in travail,
we walk/live a lifestyle before God and man

1. worthy of the calling of God with lowliness, meekness, and boldness
2. not as unbelievers do in the depravity of their minds
Radical Islam being the most depraved, the worst of the heathen (Ezk 7:24)
3. in love as Jesus loved us

This time...we walk as children of light

v6-8 Light and darkness are realities in the physical universe but, much more than that,
they are eternal spiritual realities

The great issue presented in the Bible to mankind by the Creator God: Life vs Death

The Creator gave Life to man, clothing him in Light

Man believed a lie, choosing instead death and darkness

The Creator announced His plan to redeem and reconcile the dead-in-sin to
Himself

From a faithful man God created a nation to be His witnesses of His Redeemer

Before they went into the land He promised to them as an inheritance,

Deut 30:15-20

Just before He vomited them off His land for being grotesquely unfaithful,

Jer 21:8 And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD;
Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of
death.

With Life is Light

With Death is darkness

1 John 1:1	Word of Life (John 1:1, John 17:17)
1 John 1:5b	God is Light, devoid of any darkness
Ps 104:2	coverest <i>thyself</i> with light as <i>with</i> a garment
1 John 1:6-7	darkness and Truth are contrary
Rom 6:23	Light cleanses the stain of sin, the wages of which is death
Eph 2:1-4a	with Light is Life
	But God...changed our course from death/darkness to life/light

In times past, during our “BC” days, we were (by birth and by choice) darkness

- dead-in-sin, dead men walking
- unbelief, not trusting Jesus Christ
- rebellion against the authority over our lives given by our Creator

But now, because “But God”, we are light in the Lord...we changed courses!

- College: we dropped a course of study (disobedience), changed our major (from death to Life), and added a new course (obedience)
- Race: on the broad, wrong way leading to death, U-turning to face the Son, we now follow Jesus on the narrow way that leads to Life
- Priestly: we left our work in the house of Satan, were cleansed of sin and death, and began our work in the house of God
- Great issue: Given a new “navigational system”, our course was corrected from death to life

The course correction resulted in us being

- en-Lightened

Ps 119:105	Thy word <i>is</i> a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
Ps 119:130	The entrance/disclosure of thy words giveth light
John 1:1, 4	
John 8:12	<i>I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.</i>
Matt 5:14-16	<i>Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.</i>
- En-livened (quickenened)

Ps 119:25	My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word . (Jesus Christ)
Ps 119:154	Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word .
Ps 119:50	This <i>is</i> my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

Ps 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me **in thy way**. (Jesus Christ)

Ps 119:40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me **in thy righteousness**. (Jesus Christ)

Ps 119:88 Quicken me **after thy lovingkindness** (Jesus, Col 1:19)

John 5:24 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

As children of Light living before God and man in a grotesquely dark world, do not hide your Light/Life but shine your Light/Life!

“Shine Jesus, shine...Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be Light.”
happens by His Spirit indwelling His Body/Bride

Open your new heart, Light, and Life to others, even at the risk of getting hurt
Open your mouth with God’s Word to

- encourage the Family of God living in these times
- speak the truth in love to the “darkened” and dead-in-sin so they may also be enlivened and enlightened

As children of Light, do not “play dead”, do not wander back into darkness!

We are alive-to-God and dead-to-sin so we are to live according to the Life/Light that the Living God...the God of the Living...has invested in us!

Follow Jesus...be Christ-like in all we say and do!

John 12:36a **While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.**

v9-10 Children of light, like trees, are known by the fruit they bear

Matt 12:33b **the tree is known by his fruit.**

Matt 7:17-19 **Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.**

What is good fruit?

Gal 5:22-23...Christ-likeness

“garnished” or “seasoned” with all

- goodness...Godliness (Matt 19:17)
- righteousness...pleasing and acceptable to God (1 Cor 1:30)
- truth...Jesus Christ (John 14:6, John 15:1)

Children of the light talk the talk and walk the talk – they are sincere followers of Jesus Christ and not “for show” hypocrites

Accordingly, children of light walking as children of light as evidenced by good fruit, prove by faith what is pleasing/acceptable to the Lord

“Proof is in the pudding” is an alteration of an older expression:

“The proof of the pudding is in the eating.”

In Scripture, eating = believing/ingesting/trusting/faith

The proof of faith (Heb 11:6) is obedience, being doers of the Word

Jer 7:23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

v11-12 The children of Light walking as children of light and bearing good fruit pleasing to the Father are holy fruit, separate from unholy/bad fruit

Because the unholy/unclean makes the holy/clean unholy/unclean

- Rom 1:17-18 For therein is the **righteousness of God** revealed from faith to faith: as it is written (in the Word that en-livens), The just shall live by faith.
For the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth (Word) in unrighteousness.
- Rom 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- Rom 1:24-25 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.
- Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient
- Rom 1:32 that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them

Children of Light are to rebuke, with meekness and fear, the works of darkness and are NOT to either do the works of darkness or cheer on those who do

1 Cor 5:6-11	cannot avoid, should not avoid because they need to hear Truth
2 Cor 6:14-18	but not commune with since not in one accord of mind of Christ
Is 5:20	Woe, therefore warn those who oppose themselves! Jesus is coming!

It is even shameful to talk about the things the reprobate minds do in private!
Jer 8:12 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination?
 nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush:
 therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their
 visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

And now, in these Days of Noah and Days of Lot, that which was done in the dark and strictly in private is now done brazenly in public, in broad daylight

Works of darkness engulfing the world:

- In Israel on 10/7/23 and in Western Civilization next
- In Western Civilization: acts of Jew-hatred by reprobate minds
- In Western Civilization: massive rallies of reprobate minds cheering for those who did the horrific work of Satan on 10/7/23
- In Western Civilization: LGBTQ+/Trans/Drag parades and activism... even "Queers for Palestine"

Q: Why do so many of the people who violently declare their right-ness wear masks to conceal their faces?

A: Darkness covers their faces

This is a call to holiness for the children of Light

v13 Have no fellowship...communion, in-oneaccord-ness...with darkness/death.
 Reprove/rebuke...warn...darkness/death.
 All darkness/death is made manifest/exposed/declared/revealed by the light

Luke 8:16-17 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth *it* under a bed; but setteth *it* on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.

Only True Light that exposes the darkness is the Word of the Living God

Ps 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.

Every other light is a false light, a form of darkness that leads to death

- false gospels
- philosophies of man
- doctrines of man
- doctrines of demons
- fables for itching ears
- religions of man

Luke 11:35 **Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.**

v14 A call to repentance is issued by the merciful God because the Light of God's Word is going to expose/declare every unfruitful work of darkness/death:

- awake...snap out of your blind stupor, come to your senses!
- arise...from dead-in-sin and dead-to-God
- Jesus Christ will give you Light/Life...to dead-to-sin and alive-to-God

Salvation from the 2nd death/eternal darkness is a gift of God for whosoever will trust their eternal soul with Jesus Christ

John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

1 John 5:11-12 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Repentance...absolutely necessary for a course change from darkness/death to Light/Life

1. Stop

Jer 8:6 no man repented him of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? every one turned to his course

Prov 12:15 The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel *is* wise.

Prov 21:2 Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

Jer 14:20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, *and* the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee.

2. Turn

Jer 14:22 Are there *any* among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? *art* not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee:

3. Plead

Jer 14:21 Do not abhor *us*, for thy name's sake, do not disgrace the throne of thy glory: remember, break not thy covenant with us.

4. Do/obey

Fruit of repentance (Matt 3:8)

Circumcised heart

Jer 4:4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the
foreskins of your heart

Repentance...a gift of God (2 Tim 2:24-26) to those opposing themselves is received by
faith and is needed by

- The Church (1 Peter 4:17)
- the children of AI&J
- every child of darkness

Living in these Days of Lot and Days of Noah...

Perilous times...spiritually fierce times

How do we keep pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in
Christ Jesus in a very disturbing and deranged world?

How to keep our bearings in an insane world?

We are seeing things we have never seen before, things we have only read in history books

The world today is convulsing in darkness/death!

Scenes from Nazi Germany 90 years ago (marking homes and businesses of Jews) are
seen in

- Germany, again!
- France
- Austria, again!
- Argentina (destination of the Rat Lines)
- Russia
- Las Vegas
- Ivy League institutions of higher indoctrination

Scenes from Nazi Germany 90 years ago (parades of Jew-haters) are seen in, dare I say,
all the major cities of Western Civilization (including Phoenix this past week)

Behold Israel's Telegram post: All European Life Died in Auschwitz

Scenes WORSE than from Nazi Germany 80 years ago were recorded by Hamas animals
wearing body cameras to show and boast of their unspeakable depravity

Jew-hatred has erupted all over the world

- Muslim world
- cities in Europe and USA...even in front of the White House
- Russian mob attacking an airport after a flight from Tel Aviv landed, storming the terminal and the tarmac hunting for Jews
- Russian ambassador to UN: “Israel is an occupying power, it has no right of self-defense!”
- Nations severing diplomatic ties with Israel: Bolivia
- Nations recalling their ambassadors to Israel for consultation: Chile, Columbia, Jordan, Turkey

Jer 16:14-16 v14...3500 years ago!
v15...1948
v16...today

Jew-hatred is a demonic spirit...a spirit of death and darkness

Jew-hatred = hatred of the God of Israel Who is Light

The boldness, the scope, and the pace of the eruption of this demonic spirit is unlike anything we have witnessed in our life times

And multitudes of others are so confused and ignorant because their minds are darkened, not having heard or believed the Light of the world, not knowing the Word of God (true of many Christians also!)

Before Olivia's play, speaking with her other grandfather (half Jewish, unbeliever) about what is going on in Israel and engulfing the world
After Olivia's play, speaking with the woman sitting next to Lou, who obviously was listening to our conversation

“Israel (the land) has always belonged to the Jews!?”
God promised it to AI&J 3900 years ago as their inheritance
Led into it by Moses 3500 years ago
Brought back by God in 1948
“I never knew that!!”

But the God of Israel is working

- Ineffectiveness of Hamas and Houthis rockets
- Soldier's testimony of his rifle on Behold Israel's Telegram page
- “The Eternal Nation” letter posted on Behold Israel's Telegram page
- The God of Israel is urging His people to wake up from their blindness and foolishness
- He is calling Jews all over the world, especially in Europe and USA, to come home to the land He gave them as their inheritance
- He is calling v14 to them!

Ps 18:48 He delivereth me from mine enemies: yea, thou liftest me up above those that rise up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.

violent man = *ish chamas*

Darkness is on the march

Jew-hatred is going to continue to “blossom” around the world
Nations will continue to turn against Israel in its fight against those seeking her annihilation

Is USA a friend of Israel?

Remember Eph 6:12!

Israel suits USA’s purpose in the Middle East
USA gives gifts of support that come with handcuffs
USA does what is best in USA’s interests
When being Israel’s friend is no longer in USA interests,
USA will betray Israel in the blink of an eye

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How to keep our bearings in an insane world?

By following Jesus

1. walking worthy of the calling of God with lowliness, meekness, and boldness
2. walking not as unbelievers do in the depravity of their minds
3. walking in love as Jesus loved us
4. walking as children of Light

The unbelieving Jews desperately need the Light of the world, Jesus Christ their Messiah and King!

15M Jews in the world

46% live in Israel

41% live in USA

They need to hear the Truth of the God of AI&J in order to “**be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.**”

They need to know what their prophets have to say about what is happening and what is going to happen (Dan 9, Ezk 20, Zech 13) that they might chose Life/Light and v14

The nations of the world today desperately need the Light of the world, Jesus Christ

We the children of Light are called to let our Light shine and rebuke the unfruitful works of darkness

All the more so as we see The Day approaching!

We walk with our feet in the midst of darkness

- neighborhoods
- workplaces
- cities
- states
- nation
- “home” that is not our home!

Americans boast of their nation USA, boat of being Americans

What will the American followers of Jesus Christ do when USA

- betrays Israel?
- bows to the demonic spirit of Jew-hatred?

To Whom will the American followers of Jesus Christ be loyal?

And Whom will they condemn?

But we walk/live in the Light **above** the darkness

Phil 3:20 heaven is our home!!!

Heb 11:13-16

Our home is in heaven, we live on earth “above” all the Gov’ts of this world

(the spiritual realm of Eph 6:12)

We are “in Christ”, the King of all the earth Who is seated at the right hand of the Father

We are ambassadors of Light to those abiding in darkness, the darkness out of which we
were taken by grace thru faith

Therefore, we do as our King says and does and NOT what the darkness says and does

Our time on earth is short; we know by looking at Israel

The children of Light must shine their Light

With the Light shining in the darkness comes hope, peace with God, forgiveness,
the ultimate love, and eternal life...for those who will believe/trust our witness
and God’s testimony

Fear not!

Be encouraged, our God and King is on the Throne!

Cling to our Blessed Hope...promised by God, a certainty