

Delivered from the Power of Darkness

Wednesday Bible Study

7/30/09

Col 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Col 1:13 **Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness**, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Col 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Col 1:13 -

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness - The power exerted over us in that dark kingdom to which we formerly belonged - the kingdom of Satan. The characteristic of this empire is darkness - the emblem of:

- (1) Sin;
- (2) Error;
- (3) Misery and death.

Over us, by nature, these things had uncontrollable power; but now **we are delivered from them, and brought to the enjoyment of the privileges of those who are connected with the kingdom of light.**

1. **Darkness is often used to represent the state in which men are by nature;**

KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

2Co 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

2Co 4:4 **In whom the god of this world** hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

1Jo 5:19 *And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Lieth in wickedness - “In the wicked one,” or under the power of the wicked one

Satan is thus represented as the prince of this world, the ruler of the darkness of this world, the prince of the power of the air, etc. The pagan world, lying in sin and superstition, is represented as under his control; and this passage teaches, doubtless, that the great mass of the people of this world are the subjects of the kingdom of Satan, and are led captive by him at his will.

BORN WITH A SINFUL NATURE

1. **Born into this world with a sinful nature.**

Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Eph 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Luk 1:79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, **to guide our feet** into the way of peace.

1. **To guide our feet ...** - The figure in these verses is taken from travelers, who, being overtaken by night, know not what to do, and who wait patiently for the morning light, that they may know which way to go. So man wandered. So he became benighted. So he sat in the shadow of death. So he knew not which way to go until the Sun of righteousness arose, and then the light shone brightly on his way, and the road was open to the promised land of rest - to heaven.

1Pe 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS WAS THAT OF DELIVERANCE

Luk 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me: “Or I speak by divine appointment. I am divinely inspired to speak.

1. **Poor in Spirit:** One who is deeply sensible of his spiritual poverty and wretchedness, a poor man come from the word, to tremble, or shrink with fear. Are sensible of their spiritual poverty; have low and humble thoughts of themselves, and of their own righteousness; and seek to Christ for durable riches and true righteousness,
2. **To heal the brokenhearted:** to console those who are deeply afflicted, or whose hearts are “broken” by external calamities or by a sense of their sinfulness. whose hearts are broken, and made contrite by the word of God, under the influence of the Spirit of God, and with a sense of sin; and are wounded with it, and are humbled for it; and are in great pain and distress, and even inconsolable, and ready to faint and die;
3. **Deliverance To the Captives:** Form, a spear point and be taken or conquered. Hence, property, of prisoners of war. “to bring out captives from the prison, and those who sit in darkness from the house of restraint.”
 - a. **Jesus is the Shackle cracker:**
 - b. **Captive by their own will and by wrong decisions:**

2Ti 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

2Ti 2:26 And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

“And that they may return to soberness out of the snare of the devil (having been held captive by him) to do God’s will.

4. **The Bound can be set free:**

Mar 5:4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any *man* tame him.

Mar 5:5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

Mar 5:6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshiped him,

Mar 5:7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

Mar 5:8 For he said unto him, Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit.

Mar 5:9 And he asked him, What *is* thy name? And he answered, saying, My name *is* Legion: for we are many.

Mar 5:10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.

Mar 5:11 Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding.

Mar 5:12 And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

Mar 5:13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

5. **Sight to the Blind:** This was often literally fulfilled.

- a. Satan tries to blind people from the truth, and except religious rituals and man made dogmas over truth.

Mat 13:14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

Mat 13:15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

2Co 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

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.

6. **Set at Liberty them that are Bruised**: The word “Bruised,” here, evidently has the same “general” signification as “brokenhearted” or the contrite. It means those who are “pressed down” by great calamity, or whose hearts are “pressed” or “bruised” by the consciousness of sin. To set them “at liberty” is the same as to free them from this pressure, or to give them consolation.

Isa 43:5 Fear not: for I *am* with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;

Isa 43:6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

Isa 43:7 *Even* every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Psa 126:1 A Song of degrees. When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Psa 126:2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

Psa 126:3 The LORD hath done great things for us; *whereof* we are glad.

Psa 126:4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

Psa 126:5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Psa 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.

Isa 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

AS A SHEPHERD SEEKETH OUT HIS FLOCK

Eze 34:11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, *even* I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

Eze 34:12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep *that are* scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Eze 34:13 And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

Eze 34:14 I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and *in* a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.