

THE NEW DARKNESS

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Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson

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Luk 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Luk 2:9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

Isa 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Isa 5:21 Woe unto *them that are* wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Isa 5:22 Woe unto *them that are* mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

Isa 5:23 Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

Isa 5:24 Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

WHO HATH DELIVERED US FROM THE POWER OF DARKNESS

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 1:13-14

Who hath delivered us. The language implies that we were captive. We were under **the power of darkness**. Compare. Satan is the power of darkness. Those in sin are held under his power.

Luk 22:53 When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.

from — *Greek*, “*out of the power,*” out of the sphere in which his power is exercised.

Translated (μετέστησεν)

The word occurs five times in the New Testament: **of putting out of the stewardship**, Luk 16:4; **of the removal of Saul from the kingdom**, Act 13:22.

Luk 16:4 I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.

Act 13:22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

translated — Those thus translated as to state, are also transformed as to character.

Joh 13:30 He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

and it was night; this circumstance is added, to show how eagerly he was bent upon it; that though it was night, it did not hinder or discourage him from setting out on his journey to Jerusalem; and as this was a work of darkness, the night was the fittest time for it, and was a proper emblem of the blackness of the crime he was going to perpetrate.

1. **When you leave light you will walk in darkness:** “He went out and it was night.”

Zep 1:17 And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.

Isa 59:8 The way of peace they know not; and *there is* no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.

Isa 59:9 Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, *but* we walk in darkness.

Isa 59:10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if *we had* no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; *we are* in desolate places as dead *men*.

THE NEW DARKNESS

1. **Calling Evil Good:** It is not as bad as it use to be.
2. **Today, people are getting use to evil:** more broad minded, very tolerant. A peaceful and co-existence with evil.

Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*.

Eph 5:12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

2Co 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers. The figure is drawn from the prohibition of Deu 22:10 and Lev 19:19. The meaning is that Christians are not to pair off with unbelievers. All intimate associations are forbidden. The primary reference is to intermarriage and to

association in heathen festivals. All close fellowship with unbelievers is included. Saints should choose Christian alliances and associations.

3. When the practices and the life styles of this world are less inexcusable to you we learn to agree to them.
4. **Trying to live as close to the world as possible is detrimental to spiritual progress.** “Its border line instead of Beulah Land.”
5. God has not only called His people to separation from the world, but to be separated unto Him. Separated unto Holiness, and United with Him in the Gospel.
6. We live in a world where sin parades itself as light, no condemnation, no fear of God. Women and men no longer blush when talk becomes discolored and vulgar. Now women talk just as dirty as men.

Tit 2:8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

7. **Poem by Edger Allen Poe:** Vice is a monster of such hideous means,
That to be hated needs but to be seen, So often seen, familiar with face,
First we endure, and then we pity, and then we embrace.

Joh 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Joh 3:20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

Joh 3:21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

The Word Condemnation Means: This is the Judgment, or this is the Crisis.

8. To get used to the dark is to live without a protest anymore of the sin that is around us. We begin (commerce) to adopt the fashions and the music of this world, we don't want to stand out as pilgrims and strangers anymore.

STUDY OF LOT

1. In the New Testament is called a righteous man, but with a closer study of him you find out that He moved right into Sodom after leaving the altars of Abraham.
2. He sat in the gate of the city, or became one of the city fathers.
3. Lot lost his influence with his family, because he got to use to the dark. His relatives mocked him, His two daughters shamed him.
4. He narrowly escaped the Judgments of God on the city. He lost everything, his wife was turned into a pillar of salt.
5. Lot offered no prayer for Sodom, and in his final act of backsliding, he drank wind and lay with his own daughters.

ARE UP AGAINST THE POWERS 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 Philips Translation) "We are up against the unseen powers, the powers of the Darkness in this dark world and Spiritual agents from the very Headquarters of Evil."

THE WOMEN AT THE WELL

1. The women at the well did not get convicted while Jesus talked about living waters, and where to , but when Jesus said go call thy husband, she started to feel conviction. (Come see a man that told me all things that I ever did, is not this the Christ).
2. **Charles Finney**: Had a sermon titled, "How to preach to convert no one" In this sermon he stated how to do this, is to preach, but never

mention the sins of the people in your congregation. By doing this, it will not only take them to Hell along with yourself.

GOD DID NOT PUT US INTO THIS WORLD TO LEARN TO LIVE IN THE DARK – BUT WE ARE IN THIS WORLD TO LEARN HOW TO WALK IN THE LIGHT.

1Th 5:4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

1Th 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

1Th 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

1Th 5:7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

1Th 5:8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

1Th 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pro 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Pro 4:19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

Pro 4:20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Pro 4:21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

Pro 4:22 For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

Pro 4:24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

Pro 4:25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

Pro 4:26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

Pro 4:27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.