

# Walk in the Light

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We've just come through a period of time when the hours of daylight have been very, very short. The night has been very long. It's been a time of physical darkness across the land, far more hours of darkness than daylight. Of course, as we approach the Passover and spring, the light begins to return and the days begin to grow longer. Coincidentally, during this time of great physical darkness on the earth because of the winter, sadly, there is a great spiritual darkness spreading across our land and over the entire world, as we are witnessing almost in real time these days. It seems that evil permeates every facet of human existence. As Gail mentioned in the sermonette, most recently we have the war in Ukraine where a powerful nation attempts not to just conquer a weaker nation, but to utterly destroy it with no regard for human life and the army. The ultimate leader of the army, the leader of Russia is conducting himself as a beast really—as a voracious animal. Russia is frankly exhibiting all the attributes of Satan. We won't turn there, but in John 10 Christ says that the evil one wants to *steal*. Of course, they are trying to *steal* the territory. *Kill*—they want to eliminate the opposition and completely *destroy* the nation.

The reality is, this conduct that we are watching for the first time in the history of the world, almost in real time, this conduct has been the norm throughout human history. Where the strong conquer and decimate and take captive the weak. But lest we look down our noses at other nations and other peoples, we need to look at our own nation and frankly the western democracies because we are all similar in some ways. Let's look at our government today.

We see increasing governmental intrusion into people's lives. We see increasing governmental power over the people. We see eroding freedom to worship God as we choose, which is one of our constitutional rights, but it is being eroded before our very eyes. The country has gotten to the point, that if you follow biblical teachings in most quarters there is scoffing and ridicule. In certain western countries, I can think of two, where quoting the Bible can be a "hate crime" and a person can be prosecuted for that. If we look at our political and national leaders, it's obvious that the vast majority of them are there serving themselves rather than serving the people who elected them. They are promoting themselves and their main purpose is to get reelected and keep the power they have as elected officials. As we've seen, many have naive, weak, wrongheaded ideas and philosophies of not following God Almighty and the example of His Son but rather following Satan and his influence and provocations.

Look at our medical system. We have a very good M.D. who has been our doctor for thirty years—he's very good at knowing what the medical profession is good at and what they are not good at. He admitted a while back that our medical system is absolutely broken; has lost its focus and is just broken. The medical system as we know it, is completely controlled, mostly controlled, increasingly controlled by giant insurance

companies and giant pharmaceutical companies. Putting corporate profits ahead of client health and client care.

Our educational system has changed dramatically over the last several decades. Our educational system has removed basically all mention of God Almighty, all mention of there being a Creator, teaching evolution rather than creation. Exalting mankind and the mind of man as opposed to God Almighty. Our educational system is teaching directly against our Father's laws and statutes, ridiculing those who believe in Almighty God. Our educational system introduces and promotes deviant and abhorrent behavior to our young people, all the way up to college.

Then we have our modern religious system which emphasizes the self rather than emphasizing the glory of God Almighty. Worship is focused in many cases on feeling good or prospering physically, with emphasis on the institution rather than God Almighty. There is a tendency to follow charismatic speakers because they are entertaining and they make people feel good and bring in money for the institution. Then of course we have all seen the hypocritical conduct of religious leaders and their followers. Outwardly appearing to be righteous but inwardly are spiritually bankrupt as Christ said about the religious leaders of His day.

Then in our everyday lives, every perverse evil is available to adults and is available to children, whether it's violence, murder, pornography or child molestation; it's available at the press of a key in a device held in one's hand. Who would have thought? Gail was harkening back to when we grew up in the '40's and '50's. Who would have thought that every evil could be had in a device that you carry around in your pocket and you press a button and can have that. We have the promotion of celebrity today, displays of vanity, pride and narcissism, through social media, selfies—promotion of the self.

Then on top of that, if that wasn't enough, in the U.S. and Canada, we successfully murder almost a million babies a year in the name of freedom to choose. In the United States, 18% of the pregnancies end in abortion, if you can imagine that.

The Apostle Paul describes our time perfectly. Let's go to 2 Timothy 3:1. None of us knows and can say, but are we starting the beginning of the end? As Gail said, we don't know, God Almighty knows. Jesus Christ Himself said He didn't know, He would wait for His Father to tell Him when the time occurred, but obviously we are getting very, very close.

**2 Timothy 3:1** *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*  
(KJV)

Let's stop there. The closest this world has come to a nuclear holocaust was in 1962 with the Cuban Missile Crisis and if you study that history, we came within about a minute of having all out nuclear war, if you understand the history of it. We are as close to that time now as we have been since 1962. Putin has threatened and not by

accident, that that is a possibility. Will it happen? It's going to happen sometime but we don't know exactly when. Perilous times shall come and we are in perilous times.

*2) For men shall be lovers of their own selves [we see that], covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers ... (KJV)*

Let's stop and analyze the word *blasphemers*. The Greek for that word is Strong's #989 and Help's Word Study and it says this about the definition for the Greek word for *blasphemers*

"Reverses spiritual and moral realities".

This leads to the point of the sermon:

In other words, dark is turned into light, bad is turned into good. It reverses spiritual and moral realities. Let's look at Isaiah 29:15. I remember my wife telling me once that she read this scripture and it did resonate with her because of the difference in what she was understanding, verses that she believed prior to God calling her. This is out of the NIV.

**Isaiah 29:15** *Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?"*  
*16) You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, "You did not make me"? Can the pot say to the potter, "You know nothing"? (NIV)*

We see in the scripture that in the world, Satan has succeeded and is succeeding in turning the world upside down. The creation is now the creator, dark is light and good is bad. People decide for themselves what is good and what is bad. Nothing has changed since Adam and Eve. Too often, evil is accepted as good behavior these days. Let's go back to 2 Timothy 3:2.

**2 Timothy 3:2** *... disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*  
*3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce ... (KJV)*

What is going on in Ukraine, the word "fierce" is a good descriptor of what is going on in Ukraine; like an animal ripping its prey.

*3 continued) ... despisers of those that are good ... (KJV)*

People who just want to live in peace, raise their children, have food on the table, sleep at night without guns going off and bombs dropping.

*4) Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; (KJV)*

We want what we want to make us feel good for whatever reason and God is not in the picture.

*5) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. (KJV)*

The point is, in the light of all of this pervasive evil and danger surrounding us, we need to ask the questions:

- *What does God the Father want us to be doing now?*
- *During this time of spiritual darkness what should we be paying attention to?*
- *What are the first things, the most important things, especially as we approach Passover?*

The fact is, the answer is so simple, as are all the basic truths of God Almighty. The answer is very simple. Albert Einstein once said, and I think we all know who Albert Einstein was—probably the most famous cosmologist who has ever lived, who opened up scientific thinking about the nature of the universe;

*If you can't explain it to a six-year-old, you don't understand it yourself.*

God Almighty's truth are exactly that way. The answer to what our Father wants us to be doing now lies in four simple words, which are our title today.

### Walk in the Light

That's the answer: "Walk in the light". We're going to have five points that will describe this concept of "walking in the light". As we go through scriptures today, notice how many times our Father draws the contrast between light and darkness. It is all throughout the Bible. Yet it's a concept that a six-year-old can understand. We can draw an analogy between dark and light and good and evil that a little six-year-old girl or boy could easily understand. The first point we want to make is:

#### **1. The Father is Light and His Son is the Bringer of Light.**

Let's go to 1 John 1:5 I love John's writing because his writing is so basic and so simple; he uses short, simple sentences which are easy to understand.

**1 John 1:5** *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, [here's the message] that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. (KJV)*

That is a concept that a six year can understand.

*6) If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:*

*7) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. (KJV)*

We see that God Almighty, our Father, is light; He is the source of all light. Understanding this point, we need to understand too that His Son brought His Father's light into this world. Jesus Christ came to live as a human being and He brought the light of His Father into this physical world. Let's see a prophecy about that in Isaiah 45:5. The Father is light, He is the Originator of all light and when His Son came upon this earth and lived as a human being, He brought His Father's light with Him into the world.

**Isaiah 42:5** *Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein: (KJV)*

This is all referring to the Father because notice the next verse.

*6) I the LORD have called thee [who is the "thee"?] in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; (KJV)*

Whoever He is referring to is coming as a light to the Gentiles.

*7) To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. (KJV)*

Whoever the "you" is he is going to bring them out of the darkness of being in prison. Well, "you" could only refer to His Son, Jesus Christ, Who came to give light to the Gentiles, who were prisoners of darkness just like all of us before we were called. We were "prisoners of darkness". Now let's go to the New Testament in Luke 1:78. We're breaking into the account and the father of John the Baptist, Zacharias, is speaking. This is out of the New Living Translation.

**Luke 1:78** *Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us ... (NLT)*

Talking about Jesus Christ.

*79) to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace." (NLT)*

Paul picks up that concept in 2 Corinthians 4:6. Emphasizing the fact that Jesus Christ brought His Father's light into the world.

**2 Corinthians 4:6** *For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness [He's referring back to creation of course and drawing an analogy], hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (KJV)*

The Greek word for *face* can be “the presence”—of Jesus Christ. This light that comes from the glory of God is now manifested in the presence of Jesus Christ, walking on this earth. Christ came to reveal the Father's light, giving light to our eyes and at the same time, guiding our path, showing us, the way we need to walk by His example. Let's go to a very familiar scripture, John 1:1. We know this almost by heart.

**John 1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God [for eternity], and the Word was God. [Was an Elohim]  
2) The same was in the beginning with God.  
3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. (KJV)*

He had a hand and helped His Father create all that is.

*4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men. (KJV)*

Christ's life was the light of mankind—it brought light to men. Verse 4 out of the New Living Translation says, “*His life brought light to everyone*”. Ultimately everyone, certainly to those who listen and understand today. His life brought light to everyone. Now let's go to John 8:12, as we close out this first point that the Father is light and His Son is the Bringer of light.

**John 8:12** *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, [this is very clear; a six-year-old can understand it] I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. (NLT)*

The light that illuminates our life, that illuminates our path as to how we should behave and how we should think and treat other people. How we should relate to Jesus Christ and His Father. He is the light that opens up our perception to all of that. So, we see in this first point that the Father is the originator of all light and His Son brought the light of His Father into a very dark world. A light that illuminates our path and leads us towards righteousness, towards Godly behavior. That's the first point in the understanding of our *walking in the light*.

The second point is:

**2. In total contrast, Satan is the author and the bringer of darkness.**

To start this off, let's go to Ephesians 6:12 out of the New Living Translation. This is something that when we see what's going on, almost in real time, the evil that is going on, let's understand where our fight really is.

**Ephesians 6:12** *For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. (NLT)*

Paul is acknowledging here that the “spiritual powers of darkness” rule this current world. We are seeing what “darkness” does every evening on the news or every time we open up our computers. How do these powers of darkness come to rule? How have they come to rule? They've done so by deception, by creating blindness in the minds of men. What's the definition of blindness? The definition of blindness is *darkness*. A blind person cannot see light and if somebody is blind—physically blind—they are in darkness. Somebody who is spiritually blind cannot see the light, because they are in darkness. That's somewhere that we don't want to be—we don't want to go there. In darkness we stumble, as we're going to see. Let's go to 2 Corinthians 4:4 and see that these powers of darkness have blinded humanity. We see how blind humanity is today.

**2 Corinthians 4:4** *In whom the god of this world [he's obviously referring to Satan, who is the god of this world] hath blinded the minds [not physical sight] of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God [referring to His Father], should shine unto them. (KJV)*

So, the world is blinded, so that they do not accept or perceive the light of God Almighty. They reject it, they don't perceive it as the way to go, the way that lights their path, the way that results in love and joy and kindness and peace and goodness and mercy—they don't perceive it as that. They perceive it as a fable. They perceive it as weird, because they have been blinded by the god of this world.

Satan can so deceive us, as even he appears as a light bringer. He can twist things so out of shape—180 degrees—that the author of darkness can appear to people as one who brings light. Let's go to 2 Corinthians 11:14. He does so through deception. He does so by perverting the understanding of humanity. This is out of the New Living Translation.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** *But I am not surprised! [Why is Paul not surprised?] Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (NLT)*

The Greek word for *angel* can also mean “messenger”. Satan can come and influence people and deceive people and provoke people to the point that they think they are in the light. They think they are doing the right thing; they think that what they are doing is good when it is anything but. Let's look at the result of Satan's deception and blindness, the end result. Let's go to the last book of the Bible, Revelation 12:9. Very familiar scripture. This makes it very clear who is being spoken about.

**Revelation 12:9** *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, [notice by this time of Revelation 12] which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.* (KJV)

We see that by the time of Revelation 12, the god of this world—the devil, the Satan—has deceived the entire world, except of course the elect of God. By this time, we should not be surprised that the entire world doesn't see things the way we see them. It doesn't see things the way the Bible describes them, doesn't understand the way a converted mind looks at things—just the opposite. The point is, closing out this second point, is that Satan wants to remove us, as God's people, from the light. To move us out of the light and into darkness and he does so by deception and he does so by confusion. Over the years God's people have been deceived and confused. That has happened going back through history, but the press by Satan is on ever more as his time is short. The last thing that he wants is the truth to be taught and the truth to be believed. His aim is to *turn good into evil*. His aim is to *turn evil into good*. Let's go to Isaiah 5:20, the final scripture under the second point of Satan being the author and the bringer of darkness. Speaking to this world today because this describes the world today.

**Isaiah 5:20** *Woe unto them that call evil good, ["abortion is good, killing babies is good because I have a right to choose and rule over my own body"] and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness;* (KJV)

Satan has been so successful in doing this in the past few decades, that as we read earlier in Isaiah, the world has now turned upside down.

That leads us to the next point—the result of Satan's deception and turning the world upside down, leads to the third point.

### **3. The world loves darkness and hates light.**

We have gotten to the point now where the world loves darkness and hates light; even in our country. You look back fifty years ago, seventy years ago, 100 years ago and compare the beliefs of the average individual in this country now, compared to those back then. We can see we are in great, great darkness right now. Let's go back to John 1:1, we were there earlier. We read the first four verses, we'll read them again just for context.

*John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*2) The same was in the beginning with God.*

*3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

*4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men.* (KJV)



Notice verse 5.

*5) And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. (KJV)*

All Christ received was ridicule, attack, wanting to kill Him, wanting to shut Him up. It says *darkness comprehended it not*. The Greek word for *comprehend* is Strong's #2638 and Thayer's Greek Lexicon says this: "To understand, to perceive". We see today that a belief in the Father and a belief in His Son is ridiculed by the intelligentsia. A relative of ours—of my wife's actually—was a professor at a University in Washington and he grew up as a "Christian" but later in his life he came to believe that Christ was just a good guy—just a good man, that's all. He had nice things to say but that's all.

*The light shined in the darkness and the darkness comprehended it not.*

Believing that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and a human being Who walked this earth as a Son of God is viewed in the intelligentsia of today, as an absolute fable; as a myth constructed by human beings. Now let's go to John 3:19, talking about the world loving darkness and hating light.

**John 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. (KJV)*

Verse 20 out of the NIV.

*20) Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. (NIV)*

Read that again, I think it's a great translation of verse 20. When humanity avoids the light, the light of the Father and the light of the Son and the Son's light showing us how we should live, they begin turning towards Satan. They don't know it, they don't understand it, but when you reject the light, you by definition, are turning to darkness or heading toward darkness. That darkness and the ruler of that darkness provokes us to more sin and evil. Let's go to Proverbs 4:19. The truth is so simple, so easy to understand and this tells us why the world is in this situation right now. It tells us why our country and other countries are in the situation they are in right now. The truth is so simple and easy to understand.

**Proverbs 4:19** *The way of the wicked is as darkness: [what does the darkness cause?] they know not at what they stumble. (KJV)*

They don't understand, they don't perceive it, but they are stumbling and falling causing harm and injury and they don't understand. Let's look at some recent examples of the stumbling, bumbling of man. Look at our exit from Afghanistan. We were there for a couple of decades and at the stroke of a pen almost, we violated almost every principle of military doctrine. We exited very hastily, with our tail between our legs, turning away

and leaving people behind people who had helped us for ten, twenty years at their own risk. We ran with our tail between our legs in confusion and in shame. Look at the results. Russia saw it, China saw that we just abrogated our commitments and we left because of a decision made. As a result, we were perceived by Russia and China as weak. We wouldn't stand up, we weren't there for the long haul, it wasn't convenient, it wasn't politically correct and we just left. A new regime came to power in the United States and with a decision, the U.S. was gone. Churchill was not popular until Germany invaded Poland in 1939 violating a treaty. But before the start of World War II when the British populace and ruling government were doing everything that they could to have peace and were appeasing Hitler at every turn, Winston Churchill said

*“An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile hoping it will eat him last”.*

That is so true. Look at what we have now. We were perceived as weak by the President of Russia, so we have a brutal, demonic invasion of Ukraine and now we're trying to play catch up. We are a day late and a dollar short with help. Frankly that help, if you understand the beast—I'm not calling Putin THE beast but the beast that he is and the mindset that he has—there are plenty of signs, we could have had all of that help and logistics set up and all that equipment in place, but no, we're playing catch up now. Because of that weakness—this is an example of bumbling and stumbling in the dark—we have the real possibility of China invading Taiwan at some point down the road because we are weak. They did that in Tibet—China took over Tibet—committed genocide and the world just ignored it because Tibet is just a far-off country in the middle of the Himalayan Mountains that nobody wants to deal with. We just want to sweep it under the rug and pretend it doesn't exist. That's the stumbling and bumbling.

Here in the Northwest, look at the destruction of downtown Seattle and Portland. Seattle used to be known as the “Emerald City”, but it's anything but that right now. In the name of love and understanding, the whole downtown Seattle has been taken over by transients, drug addicts, homeless and the police are nowhere to be found because they have been defunded and marginalized. The honest people who want to make a living, who have had businesses downtown for decades now have to leave and go somewhere else. That has all been done in the name of love, understanding, and kindness. You see, we are stumbling in the dark. Defunding police departments and the Mayor of Seattle at the time was leading the charge for defunding police departments. This was going on in Seattle and it was, “we have to be kind, we have to be understanding, we have to understand where they came from and what they're going through”. That worked until they started camping out on her lawn. Then there were some tents put up on her lawn and I guarantee, it was commonly reported within a few hours, they just mysteriously disappeared. Again, stumbling and bumbling.

The crisis we have at the southern border; you don't hear much about that, but it's still a crisis. Nothing is being worked out, people are flooding into the United States and we're just not dealing with it. We'll deal with it down the road. The victimhood of critical race theory is just mind boggling when you get into that; we don't have time to get into that. What are these people thinking? My point is, all the dark and stumbling, the wrong-

headed ideas, when they are put into place you have chaos and the people who put them into place, look around completely amazed at the dark fruits of what is happening. Every day this world is descending more and more into darkness, rejecting and hating the light and the result is confusion and the result is increasing darkness. The world loves the darkness.

Now we get to the fourth point, now it comes home to us.

#### **4. We are called to come out of the darkness and to come into the light.**

We live in darkness; we lived in darkness before we were called. But once God Almighty calls us and then turns us over to His Son, Jesus Christ, Who is our Judge, we now have the job of coming out of the darkness and beginning to walk in God's light. In John 12:44, Christ is speaking and talking about those who believe in Him.

**John 12:44** *Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. (KJV)*

Meaning His Father.

*45) And he that seeth me, seeth him that sent me. (KJV)*

You notice His focus is on His Father, not on Himself. Modern Christianity wants to focus everything on the Son or the mother of the Son—the Madonna—and the Father is completely ignored. Christ said, if you believe Me, you don't really believe Me, you believe My Father; if you've seen Me, you've seen the Father.

*46) I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. (KJV)*

We are called to make the change to move from darkness into light. That is our job, that is our calling, as God's people. In 1 Peter 2:9 Peter continues with this principle—with this understanding of our calling of coming out of darkness and into light. Coming out of evil, into true goodness.

**1 Peter 2:9** *But ye are a chosen generation [he's talking to those who have been called by God Almighty], a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people [special people in that regard]; that ye should shew forth the praises of him [referring to the Father] who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (KJV)*

Remember He is the Originator of light—all light comes from the Father. He called us to come out of darkness and to walk in the light with the mind and the example of His Son. 1 Philippians 2:3—we need the mind of Jesus Christ. That mind is filled with light and we need to use that mind of Christ to walk in the light. Let's go back to Colossians 1:12; Paul is writing about us today and of course those who were called during his day.

**Colossians 1:12** ... *giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.* (NKJV)

The saints walk in the light of the Father and the light of the Son. They walk in the light. The saints are not in darkness. You can't be a saint and be in darkness is the point Peter is making. You call yourself a saint? If you're walking in darkness, you're not a saint because the saints walk in the light.

*13) He [the Father] has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love ...* (NKJV)

He's delivered us from the power the darkness had over us. We didn't know it at the time and then when He threw the switch and began opening our minds to begin understanding the truth and we began to see that the way we had been living was pretty awful, pretty dark and pretty miserable. There is a better way and that better way is the light brought to us as to how to live by His Son. If we yield to our Father's will and our Father's law, we will be delivered from the power of darkness. Why? Because we are walking in the light, we are walking in His light. Our being called requires action on our part. Being called we don't just say, as modern Christianity says,

*"Just take me as I am—nothing to do—just accept me. I can live the way I've been living and sin the way I've been sinning and the more I sin, the more grace you show me and everything is cool and I don't have to make any changes at all."*

Look at Ephesians 5:8; our being called requires action on our part. Paul is writing and this is out of the New Living Translation. He's talking to us; we apply this personally.

**Ephesians 5:8** *For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!*  
*9) For this light within you ...* (NLT)

What could that be? Remember what Christ said in John 14, the night He was betrayed? He said, "*The Father and I will come and make our abode in you*". That's what this is referring to.

*9 continued) ... produces only what is good and right and true.*

*10) Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.*

*11) Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.* (KJV)

Our calling, our mission, our job, is to walk away from darkness and to walk into the light. Walk away from our sinful behavior and to walk into a righteous life as exemplified by Christ—meaning walking in His light. How do we do that? We have to focus on the most important matters. What are the first things? What did Christ tell us? Paul said,

you all need pabulum, you can't handle solid food. You need to have strong meat, you need to be able to accept strong meat. What is that? The weightier matters of the law—justice, mercy, faith—Matthew 23:23. Those are the hard things. Justice, being fair in everything, mercy, forgiving, be ready to forgive and not hold grudges and faith. When we need help, believing absolutely that the Father is there and that His Son is there to help us. Let's go to Revelation 14:1. This is where we want to be. This is the end result. How far away it is, we can't say for a certainty, but it's a lot closer than it was a month ago or six weeks ago.

**Revelation 14:1** *And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. (KJV)*

What a sight. Verse 4.

*4) These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. (KJV)*

The Greek word *defiled* is Strong's #3435 and it's the Greek word *moluno* and it means "to soil" and it tells us it's from #3189 and that is the Greek word *melas* which means "black—darkness, utter darkness". We see the 144,000 are not defiled, meaning soiled and they're not blackened, living in darkness. They are in the light. Going on in verse 4.

*4) These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. (KJV)*

How do the 144,000 do that? They walk in the path that was lighted by Jesus Christ, who brought the light from His Father. So, we walk in the same path Christ did—we follow in His footsteps, using the light of the Father that Christ brought as our guide. Our every minute should be the light and as we approach Passover, we need to think, "Am I walking in the light today?" "Is this thought that I just had in accordance with the light from the Father or am I getting into the darkness of the evil one?" A good question to ask as we approach the Passover.

Finally in these dangerous and difficult days, let's come to our final point, which is a point of encouragement.

## **5. Light is our armor.**

We don't often think of that as a concept. When a soldier goes to battle, he is armed. He could have, in the old days, a bazooka or a rifle or be piloting an airplane and that was his armor he taking into battle. With that in mind, let's go to Romans 13:12. Paul is writing and encouraging the Romans and by extension us today. He is saying time is short and at one point, Paul thought Christ would come in his life time but he was later disabused of that and realized that wasn't the case; it wasn't going to happen in his lifetime.

**Romans 13:12** *The night is far spent, [darkness is on the earth but a change is*

coming] *the day is at hand* [of course that is the day of reckoning for all of us]: *let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.* (KJV)

That is an interesting phrase—*The armor of light*. The Greek word for *armor* is Strong's #3696 and it means “an implement or tool offensively for war”. It's not a defensive tool, it's an offensive tool. It can also be translated weapon. The weapon of light. It's not like a shield, used defensively, light is a weapon used offensively. How is light our armor? How is it our weapon? Two ways it can happen:

A. The light from Yehovah, God Almighty, illuminates—gives clarity—to the path we should take, that we should walk.

In Psalm 119:105; God's Word defines the path we should take. It is very simple. The commandments define it, the sermon on the Mount defines it, it's very simple to understand. It's hard to do with a carnal mind, but with God's spirit, all things are possible.

**Psalms 119:105** *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.* (KJV)

A very poetic description of the light of God Almighty. Notice verse 130, out of the NIV and it's very poetic.

*130) The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.* (NIV)

How is light our weapon? It shows us the path we should go. If you're fighting a battle, you need to have a plan, a path to go along. You need to have a method to achieve your goal and know what it is. God's Word illuminates that path.

A second way:

B. The light of the Father also illuminates our sin.

Something to think about as we approach the Passover. The light of our Father illuminates our sins. Let's go back to Psalms 90:8. One of the purposes of the light of God Almighty and the light Christ brought is to illuminate our faults and our sins and shortcomings. Out of the NIV.

**Psalms 90:8** *You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.* (NIV)

The Father's light opens our minds to see our secret sins that were hidden. I look back on my life and I was just as dumb as a stump the first few years coming into God's church. I was sinning right and left and didn't even know it. I treated people in ways, and

said things and did things, just bumbling and stumbling through life. Then finally over time, the light of God opens our eyes to see these things that were formally hidden from us—secret. The Hebrew word for *secret* is Strong's #5956 and it means "to veil from sight. To conceal, to blind, to hide". We've all had sins that we have been blind to, that at the time were dark to us—we didn't see them. The fact is, over time as we grow closer to our Father, because we are closer and our Father is the Originator of all light, that light permeates our minds. That light reveals hidden sins, secret sins, faults, short comings, that we didn't see before. I beat myself up, I go back and think about things that I didn't realize at that time—I have to repent of them, because I never repented of them back then because I didn't know it—didn't see it. You think, how could I have been so stupid, how could I have said that? How could I have thought that way? His light reveals our hidden sins and that is very important as we approach Passover. Let's go to Proverbs 5:21, going from Psalms to Proverbs. This is out of the New Living Translation.

**Proverbs 5:21** *For the Lord sees clearly what a man does, examining every path he takes. (NLT)*

Nothing escapes our Father's notice—nothing. Now to the next book, Ecclesiastes 12:14. These are Solomon's last words that he wrote. Obviously if he is summing up Ecclesiastes in this last verse, so it's probably pretty important.

**Ecclesiastes 12:14** *For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. (KJV)*

The point is, the light from our Father and from His Son illuminate those secret things. Now let's go to the New Testament, Hebrews 4:12, because this theme moves forward into the New Testament, about our secret sins are not hidden from God and His light exposes them. This is out of the New King James.

**Hebrews 4:12** *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul [it means our life] and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (NKJV)*

Verse 13, we'll read out of the New Living Translation.

*13) Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes [that's a scary thought], and he is the one to whom we are accountable. (NLT)*

There is going to be a time when we are going to have to do that. The fact is, the light from the Father and the light from His Son reveals to us, everything that we've done over time. It takes time but the closer we get to God Almighty, the more time we spend close to God Almighty, the more His light opens up our life, our sins, our faults, and our shortcomings. Then we have the opportunity to repent. If we sincerely repent, then that

slate is wiped clean—it's gone forever. It doesn't have to come up anymore. The good news is, the closer we get to our Father, the greater His light shines on our life, the greater His light opens up our minds to who we are and what we are, both good and bad. It gives us the opportunity to repent and also gives us the opportunity to repeat the good—better and better, over and over. If we are close to our Father, as I said, the light from Him reveals our hidden sins so we can see them and overcome them. I think all of us have been there; “How could I have said that, how could I have acted that way, how could I have thought that?” When that happens, it's a good thing because it means our Father's light is shining on us and opening up our minds to see our past. In that way, *light is our armor*. It's an offensive weapon. It reveals our past, it reveals our sins and, in that way, the Father's light illuminates the darkness that is in us. We all have had darkness in us. Let's go to 2 Samuel 22:29 out of the NIV to close out this fifth point. David is talking to Yehovah after being delivered from Saul.

**2 Samuel 22:29** *You, LORD, are my lamp; the LORD turns my darkness into light.* (NIV)

When we are in a dark place spiritually, moving close to the Father turns that darkness in us, into light. That is what we should be doing because light becomes our armor against the evil of darkness.

We've seen today that our Father is the *Source* of light. He is light and His Son is the *Bringer* of light. In total contrast, Satan is the bringer of darkness, he is the author of darkness and the world loves darkness. The world hates light but we are called out of the darkness and the light from our Father becomes our armor—our offensive weapon. So then what we must be doing as we look at ourselves prior to Passover is walk in the light and we have to reflect the light. What did Christ say? “*You are the light of the world.*” We won't turn there—Matthew 5, a lighted city on a hill, you can't hide that. What He is saying is, that you are an example one way or another—an example for good or an example for bad. The question becomes, what kind of example do we set? Do we set a Christlike, Godly example or do we set a dark example, coming from the originator of darkness?

Going into this evil world, we have to keep this in mind at all times. Let's go to Psalm 27:1. This is a good Psalm to keep in mind as we go toward the Passover and into this uncertain world in which we live. David is writing.

**Psalm 27:1** *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?* (KJV)

As long as God Almighty is our light and salvation, what do we have to be afraid of?

*1 continued) ... the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*  
(KJV)

We should be thankful that we have been called and we should be thankful that we have been called out of darkness and into the light of the Originator of light, the One



Who is light. We have been called into the church of the One who brought His Father's light into the world. As we approach Passover, let's make sure that everything we think, everything we do, everything we say, every action we take, is in the light—the light of the Father and the light of His Son.