

WALKING IN DARKNESS

John 3:16-20

Introduction: All of us at one time or other have walked in darkness and sometimes we didn't know where we were going and often stumbled over something or ran into something. We just couldn't see where we were going or anything that was in our way. There are countless numbers of people today walking in a darkness that is deadly. It is spiritual darkness. The final end for those in spiritual darkness is eternal misery in the place the Bible calls "Hell." To walk in spiritual darkness is to be blind to God and His plans for one's life.

I. GOD CONSIDERS THIS WORLD AND ALL IT HAS TO OFFER AS DARKNESS

1. Sin has darkened our world and has cast it's dark shadow into every corner of the world.
 - Every human being without Jesus Christ is living in the darkness of the world and sin.
2. Sin and the darkness surrounding it causes everyone to live apart from God, who created them.
 - Sin and it's darkness limits one's vision to what his/her life can really be like.
 - People without Jesus Christ are groping around in the world's darkness.
3. Sin and it's darkness has darkened the roads of life and people cannot see what road he/she is actually traveling.
4. One can never find peace or happiness on the roads the world has and light and sight cannot be found on the road of sin which is a dark road.

II. GOD HAS SENT LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

1. God has sent a light to show people the way and that light is His Son, Jesus.
 - God sent Jesus because He saw the darkness and sin of the world.
 - God sent Jesus because He loves us and doesn't want us to perish in the world's darkness.
 - God sent Jesus because He wants everyone to go to the place He has called Heaven to be with Him forever.
2. The light which Jesus brought is the light of TRUTH.
 - He brought truth about God.
 - He brought truth about our real selves.
 - He brought truth about salvation.

III. THE DARKNESS OF THE WORLD CAUSES THE CONDEMNATION OF PEOPLE

1. People are not condemned to hell because the world is sinful.
 - People are not condemned to hell because Satan causes us to sin.
 - People are not condemned to hell because they don't go to Church as they should.
 - People are not condemned to hell because they don't tithe.
 - People are not condemned to hell because they gossip.

- People are not condemned to hell because they lie.
2. People are condemned to hell because they had rather live in the darkness of the world than in the light of Jesus.
 - People had rather live in sin and darkness than have the spotlight of Jesus' truth shine on their lives.
 - People had rather live their lives in sin than have to face up to their sins, to lay them all out and to have to admit the sins are theirs.
 - People just don't know any different, they don't know about Jesus.
 3. People had rather live their lives in darkness and sin than have the light of God. Why?
 - The light of God shows how sinful people are.
 - The light shows that people are lost and doomed.
 - The light makes the conscience hurt.
 - The light shows others what each other really is like.
 - The light causes one to feel shame and brings embarrassment as it causes one to see his/her guilt.
 4. The light of God can be very painful.
 - As some who have had eye surgery know, after removing the eye patch where the eye had been in total darkness for some time in order to heal, taking the patch away and exposing the eye to bright light causes extreme pain and a lot of tears.
 - Thus it is with the light of God. People have been in darkness all their lives and suddenly they are brought into the bright light of the truth of God and there is joy, but there is pain as well. Spiritual light can be very painful.
 5. When the light of spiritual truth is cast on one's dark sinful life, things happen.
 - There is discomfort in Church services.
 - One had rather not be around Christian people.
 - There is a fear to admit that help is needed.
 - One wants to put off making a decision for Jesus as long as possible.
 - Many go back to a far, dark corner of the world and try to continue to live their lives of sin and damnation, but do so uncomfortably.
 6. Having lived a lifetime in darkness and sin, it is hard to want to leave that kind of life.
 - Some had rather continue to live in darkness and sin and just be dumb to what God wants them to see.
 - People are not condemned so much because the world is sinful, but because they refuse to give up their lives of sin and darkness and turn away from the light Jesus wants them to have - TRUTH.

CONCLUSION:

1. ***John 3:16*** describes the way God has given every person to escape the darkness and sin and begin to live in the light which Jesus has brought.
2. Don't be afraid of the Gospel for it will give you light and show you the way to salvation.
3. Too long people have walked in darkness and sin. Now, this moment is the time you can be freed from that darkness and sin. God said for us to believe on His Son, Jesus and we could have eternal life and live the rest of our lives and all eternity in the brightness of His glory.
4. Remember, you don't have to do anything to be in darkness and sin. You were born into it and it's all you know but Jesus has something to show you and it is a totally new way of life and a new place you can spend eternity in. Let Him show you.