



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Light and Darkness ... by Norah

Read Genesis 1:4

'And God saw that the light was good. Then He separated the light from the darkness'.

- As can be seen from the above text, from the very beginning God separated light from darkness. The way of the unbeliever is total darkness (). shows that those who refuse to believe in the Son of God have been judged for preferring the darkness to the light. Jesus commissions Paul to open the eyes of the Gentiles so they may turn from darkness to light ().
- There is only one bridge from the darkness to the kingdom of light. Zechariah's prophecy concerning the coming of the " " speaks of Jesus (). The fulfilment of the prophecy of is recorded in . In Galilee, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. Paul writes to the Colossian believers about the old system of rules and holy days being only shadows. Christ is the reality ().
- Believers are clearly told that they no longer belong to the kingdom of darkness. God has transferred them to the kingdom of His Son (), tells us: *"For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night."*
 - **Shadow:** A dark area or shape produced by a body coming between rays of light and a surface.
 - ❖ :
 - and there is no darkness in him at all."*
 - ❖ As He has done from the beginning, God still separates light from darkness. Believers must do the same. says: *heart, all your soul, and all your strength."*
 - **Heart:** Bitterness. Unforgiveness. Jealousy. Self-pity. Love of praise. Love of riches.
 - **Soul/mind:** Fears. Guilt. Shame. Lies.
 - **Strength:** Gifts. Talents. Health. Wealth.
- Everyone is under the shadow of the cross. For the unbeliever it is a threatening, gloomy darkness. Even Jesus came under its shadow in Gethsemane. In His anguish He sweat drops of blood. When He hung on the cross, there was darkness over the land for three hours. Peter's preaching of the cross at Pentecost brought 3,000 men under its shadow, and ultimately to salvation. Believers have stepped through the shadow of the cross to the light of the resurrection. We must walk in the light, bringing every other shadow to the foot of the cross. We must not allow anything to block God's light if we are to be effective in this world.
- All fruit trees need full sun, good drainage and room to grow.
- Let's be fruitful as we walk in God's full light.

WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Events /Notices

- ▶ **Women's conference, "Reality Bites"** Saturday 1st October 9.30am to 3.00pm at Grosvenor Road Baptist Church Rathmines. Cost €5.00.
- ▶ Next late night prayer meeting will be on Saturday 8th October @ 8.00pm

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11)

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (Hebrews 13:2).