

STEPPING OUT OF DARKNESS

14/6/26

Darkness is nothing more than the absence of light... thus darkness is nothingness. Moths are drawn to artificial lights that disorient them and they lose their natural ability to be guided by moon or star light... most die prematurely. Humans don't do much better; they are also drawn to artificial 'lights' that end up leaving them unhappy and broken... then they die. Walking in darkness is naturally frightening.

*This is where we come in as Christians. **JOH 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the **light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not **walk in darkness**, but shall have the **light of life**.*

God offers an initial lamp that leads us to the real light and the reason for our existence.

The first light. LUK 1:76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest (*John the Baptist*): for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; **77** To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins (*the result of darkness*), **78** Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the **dayspring** (*dawning*) **from on high** hath visited us, **79** To **give light to them that sit in darkness** and in the **shadow of death** (*where light is blocked*), to guide our feet into the way of peace. *This is our testimony.*

The Lord warns against the fake light of life and directs us to the real light.

Sun of righteousness. MAL 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall **burn as an oven**; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch (*destruction of all family and friends... no one that can help*). **2** But unto you that fear my name shall the **Sun of righteousness** arise with **healing in his wings** (*pinnacles are the high points of a building... defining the 4 corners and central spire*); and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. **3** And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.

Not only do we have the true light, but all the information we will ever need is also offered.

JOH 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in **darkness**, but shall have the **light of life**.

Peter explains what this means... This is the only true light in the darkness... this is the only way salvation comes.

ACT 2:37... Men and brethren, what shall we do? **38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the **remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **39** For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. *These are the only steps out of the darkness... they come with evidence and availability.*

The relief that light brings.

Light brings clarity. PRO 4:18 But the path of the just is as the **shining light**, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day (*full daylight*). **19** The way of the wicked is as **darkness: they know not at what they stumble**. *Without the Holy Spirit there is no real guidance... blindness solves nothing.*

JOH 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall **teach you all things**, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. *Clarity.*

How God deals with our sins.

As far as the East is from the West This was written after David received God's covenant of mercy. PSA 103:10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. **11** For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. **12** As far as the **east** (*sunrise*) is from the **west** (*darkness*), so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. **13** Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that **fear** (*respect*) him. *If you head North or South you will always be going the other way when you reach the poles. However, if you head Eastward toward the sun, you will never be going Westward at any time... heading to the light is a permanent safe direction, despite our failings.*

Simple explanation from St John.

Walking in the light. 1JOH 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have **fellowship** (*communion*) **with us**: and truly our **fellowship** is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. **4** And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. **5** This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is **no darkness** at all. **6** If we say that we have fellowship with him, and **walk in darkness** (*westward*), we lie, and do not the truth: **7** But if we walk in the **light** (*eastward*), as he is in the light, we have **fellowship** one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his **Son cleanseth us from all sin** (*present tense*). **8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from **all unrighteousness**. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. **2:1** My little children, these things write I unto you, **that ye sin not**. And if any man sin, we have an **advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Jesus represents the light in the darkness (the moon) and the dawning sun at his return.

PSA 84:11 For the LORD God is a **sun and shield**: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.