

## #3100 0107 24A

To be *light in the dark* is to give a smile and a kind greeting to your neighbor; to *be light in the dark* is to help someone with a difficult job; to *be light in the dark* is to treat someone you meet with kindness, respect, and consideration. This shines *brightly* in a spiritually *dark* world.

Today, the world darkens spiritually, and apostasy is on the increase—and since it is up to *us*, then our conduct and attitudes can be that *light of truth* in a very sin-saturated society.

The light we shine for the Lord may be the only Bible truth some will ever see.

Showing an example of spiritual light should be *throughout* the day and with *all* situations encountered! Being *light in the dark* is *not* automatic but intended—we have to *want* to be *light* because we *began* life in the *dark*—and with a *rebellious* attitude that needs converting.

Everyone grows to adulthood unaware that a sinful nature is in their heart. That nature makes us do all kinds of things that are against God. But He knew that we were not *responsible* for being born with Satan in control of our desires and decisions—it all came about without our knowledge or consent.

Therefore, rather than have *us* pay the *penalty* for this awful attitude—God chose to send His *Son* 

to pay the penalty *for* us. That is why Jesus gave *His* life on the cross as *our* sacrifice.

This would be the same as if *we* gave our life for our sins. Jesus was the *sacrifice* for the world! In doing that, Jesus *made* us free from oppression, wrong attitudes, and Satan's influence on our attitudes—it is as if we were no longer alive.

NLT Colossians 2:13 "You were **dead** because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you **alive** with Christ. He forgave all our sins; 14 nailing them to the cross."

Now we can be *light in the dark* by reflecting the *light of the Son*—like the moon *reflects* the *light* of the sun. The moon is a faithful *witness* of God's creative powers, and *we* can be a faithful *witness* of God's conversion of heart when we reflect the *light* of *His* Son! Psalm 89

Our old attitudes are *dead*, and our new attitudes are *alive!* If we were no longer *living* on earth, we could no longer be doing anything *wrong* on earth—committing no sins and having no wrong attitudes toward anything.

AV Romans 6:1 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are **dead** to sin, **live** any longer therein?"

Since Jesus' death is our death—4 "We are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

It is a *new* and *different* way since we are *dead* to sinful ways and attitudes AV Romans 6:11 "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be **dead** indeed unto sin, but **alive** unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

By faith we believe and accept that we *are* a *different* person—we have been *delivered* from the *evil* nature and have *received* the *divine* nature.

Time is precious and we are running out of it as the days become *more* corrupt and evil. It is time to *be light in the dark* and to reflect the Truth of the Bible. AV John 8:12 "*I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*"

The *light of life* is having a *right attitude* toward people. No matter what our attitudes *were*; no matter how many sins we *had* committed, if we *believe* that God *forgives* when we *repent*, then we *start over* and start being that *light in a dark world*.

The way to convert our attitude from a *selfish* one to a *selfless* one, is to *believe* that God will *do* that for us. Satan will keep saying we are *not* changed; we are *not* converted; we are *not* any different than we were—but we now *believe* we *are delivered* from those past attitudes, so we start acting in *newness* of life.

We believe God's testimony that AV 2 Peter 1:3 "His (Jesus) divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness."

Anything that would enable us to live a godly life and to act in godly ways has been given to us as a gift. AV 2 Peter 1:4 "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature."

We *hold* to the Word and *believe* it is true whether we are going through a trial or not; whether we *feel* good or not so good—we maintain that belief in God's written Word.

The devil will do anything to convince us that the Word is *not* true or that our prayer is *not* answered, but God's Word is *always* true and takes priority!

The next step to have a divine nature within is a total *commitment* of our life to God. We are just *restoring* to God what *belongs* to Him—giving Him full *possession* and deciding that *His will* is going to be *our will* from that time on.

God *then* comes into our heart by faith where *Christ* is now abiding. It results in our being *Light in the Dark!* 

Our life is now AV Romans 12:1 "A living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God." We are AV Romans 12:2 "Transformed by the renewing of your mind," and proving that God's will is "good, and acceptable, and perfect."

We would not enter Heaven if we did not *know* nor *do* the will of God—*that* is how important it is to give our *life back* to God.

Time is running out—it is now *time* for us to *be a Light in a Dark world!* When we act from the light, we are planting the seed of God's *Truth*. God then gives the increase 1 Corinthians 3:6.

Jesus invites us to come to Him—AV Matthew 11:28 "and I will give you rest." He is approachable and easy to speak with—and 29 "ye shall find rest unto your souls."

We take the stand that the *old* sin nature no longer lives in us, and the *new* divine nature is now abiding in us and has control.

With this *divine* nature, we automatically *meet* things **right**; we *treat* people in a respectful manner; and we *respond* to all things in a Christ-like way—as the Bible *says* to respond.

When the *sin* nature controls, we automatically meet things **wrong**; we treat people in a disrespectful way; we are sarcastic, insulting, and responding like the world does.

To be *Light in the Dark*—in a world controlled by the devil, we need to have the

*divine* nature controlling everything we *say* and *do* and *decide*.

The Spirit of God makes it easy to deal with people, customers, and everything that day in a *right* and *godly* way. It will be *natural* to do so it will be our *focus* that day—*knowing* what God's Word says and *doing* it!

To Be *Light in the Dark*, we follow and obey the Words of Jesus because He *is "The Word of God!"* His life was lived in real time.

He showed us *how* to meet things; *what* to do with our money; the *right* way to treat people; *how* to *respond* to insults; and how to *trust* God for every *need* every *day*. AV Hebrews 10:7 "Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God."

When self is *out* of our heart and Christ *within*, we will *see* spiritual growth; we will *know* the will of God and we will *proceed* according to the Scriptures.

Seeing spiritual fruit is so important and that fruit is seen when we meet things in a scriptural way. NIV 1 Corinthians 4:12-13 "When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; when we are slandered, we answer kindly." God can help us respond like that. It is the commitment we make and the life we offer to God.

The apostle *pleaded* with us to do that—it is *that* important; and God is *merciful* to us, and He will *overlook* the past when we *repent* of our past.

At that point, there is nothing hindering us from presenting our *life* as AV Romans 12:1 "*a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*"

God has spoken—the sin nature us has been *crucified* with His Son—it no longer controls us.

AV Romans 6:6 "Knowing this, that our old [self NIV] is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should **not** serve sin."

If we do **not** believe that testimony, we will not be delivered from the old *worldly nature*. But if we **do** believe God, then the new *divine nature* will *now* control our words, ways, and attitudes.

NKJV 1 John 5:10 "He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does **not** believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son."

In this race of life, we either finish *strong* or we finish *wrong*! God has invited us to Heaven—it is up to *us* what we *do* with that invitation.

We can *discard* it; *not value* it and finish the race in *Hell*; or we can *accept* it, *value* it, *keep* it, and finish our journey at a place called *Heaven*!

It all starts by *Being Light in the Dark!* 



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