



Shining As Lights

In A Dark World

Philippians 2:12-18

Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing,

Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Yes, and if I am being poured out *as a drink offering* on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

¹⁸ For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

We Live In A Dark World Ever Since Sin Entered— Gen 3

- ❖ **The days of Noah** — Gen 6:5
- ❖ **The days of Abraham** — Gen 19
- ❖ **The days of Moses** — Exodus 5 ff
- ❖ **The days of Israel** — Is. 42:6;
2 Kgs 17:8-20
- ❖ **The days of Jesus** — John 12:46
- ❖ **The early years of the church** —
Acts 2:40; Rom. 1:18-31; Eph. 5:1-
17; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 2 Peter 4:1-6

We Live In A Dark World

Sins of A Decadent Society

Romans 1:18-32 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

- ◆ Suppression of truth - 18
- ◆ No respect for God – 21
- ◆ Ungrateful - 21
- ◆ Ungodly in thought - 21
- ◆ Pride - 22
- ◆ Idolatry – 23
- ◆ Uncleanliness, lust – 24
- ◆ Exchanged truth for a lie – 25
- ◆ Vile passions (homosexuality) – 26,27

We Live In A Dark World

Sins of A Decadent Society

Romans 1:18-32 (NKJV)

²⁸ And even as they **did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind**, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being **filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers,**
³⁰ **backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,** ³¹ **undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;** ³² **who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.**

We Live In A Dark World

Sins of A Decadent Society

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

We Live In A Dark World

Sins of A Decadent Society

Ephesians 5:1-21

Ephesians 5:5-7 (NKJV)

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷

Therefore do not be partakers with them.

- ◆ Fornication - 3
- ◆ Uncleanliness - 3
- ◆ Covetousness - 3
- ◆ Filthiness - 4
- ◆ Foolish Talking - 4
- ◆ Course Jesting - 4

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Matthew 5:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.



Shining As Lights In A Dark¹ World

Our Challenge

- ❖ The world hates the light and loves the darkness – John 3:19;
- ❖ Not to love the world – 2 John 2:15-17
- ❖ Not to be of the world – 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1
- ❖ Not to be conformed to the world – Rom. 12:1,2;
- ❖ To set our affections on Spiritual things - Col. 3:1-3
- ❖ What are we to expect if we live as lights in the world? – Mat 5:11,12; 2 Pet. 4:4-6

Shining As Lights In A Dark World

Overcoming A Decadent Society

Ephesians 5:1-21

Ephesians 5:7,11
(NKJV)

⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them. . . . ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*.

◆ **Walk In Love** – Love for God and man – 5:1-7; 1 John 5:2-4; 3:14-16

◆ **Walk In Light** – The light of God's word – 5:8-14; Ps. 119:105; 1 John 1:7

◆ **Walk In Wisdom** – carefully, in praise, with humility – 5:15-21

Being a Light in a Dark World

Requires A RENEWED mind resulting in acceptable service – Rom. 12:1,2

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your* reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Being a Light in a Dark World

**Requires Focused determination to
desire SPIRITUAL things – Col. 3:1-3**

¹ If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Shining As Lights In A Dark World

Having the Mind of Christ

Philippians 2:1-18

- ◆ **Unity In Truth And Love - 2:1-4**
- ◆ **Willingness To Be Humble Servants – 2:5-11**
- ◆ **Reverence For God – 2:12**
- ◆ **Allowing God To Use Us – 2:13**
- ◆ **Do All Things In Faith And Love – 2:14**
- ◆ **Hold Fast The Word of Life – 2:16**
- ◆ **Rejoice Through Faith – 2:17,18**


Shining As Lights In A Dark World

Is Your Light Shining

- 
- ◆ **In Your Morality**
 - ◆ **In Your Language**
 - ◆ **In Your Clothing**
 - ◆ **In Your Habits**
 - ◆ **In Your Entertainment**
 - ◆ **In Your Attitude**
 - ◆ **In Your Spirituality**

Shining As Lights In A Dark World

Individually & Collectively

- 
- ◆ **We can't shine if we are not Christians -**
 - ◆ **We can't shine unless we are walking in the light of God's word -**
 - ◆ **We can't shine as a church unless we work and serve God in unity and love.**

Shining As Lights In A Dark World

**You Can't shine
without Jesus!**

**You can become a
child of God today!**

**You can be a positive
influence on those
around you!**





Shining As Lights In A Dark World

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Ephesians 5:1-14 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ² And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. ³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

Ephesians 5:1-14 (NKJV)

⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵

For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Ephesians 5:1-14 (NKJV)

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

Ephesians 5:1-14 (NKJV)

⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),
¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

Ephesians 5:1-14 (NKJV)

¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says:
"Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."