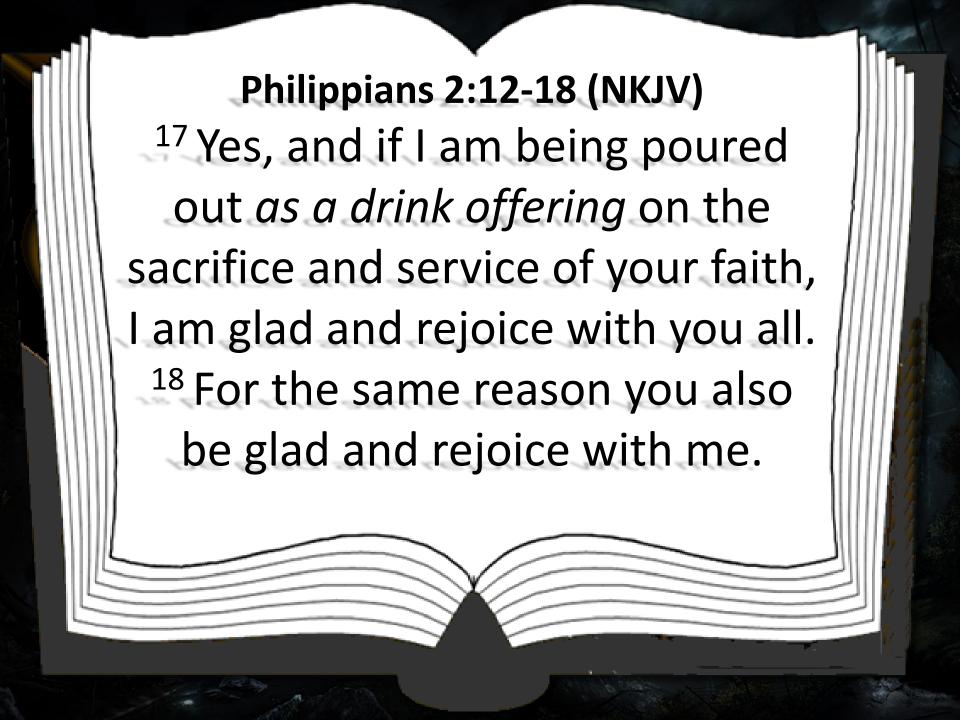


Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

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.



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
- ◆ Uncleanness, 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.

Therefore do not be partakers with them.

- **♦** Fornication 3
- ◆Uncleanness 3
- **♦** Covetousness 3
- ◆ Filthiness 4
- ◆ Foolish Talking 4
- ◆Course Jesting 4

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 & Dork Work 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

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

¹I 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.

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 Down Work 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 & Down Work 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.

You Can't shine without Jesus! You can become a child of God today! You can be a positive influence on those around you!



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¹Therefore 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)

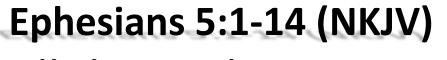
⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

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



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.



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."