

Sermon on Let the Light of the Word Drive out your Dark Situation

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12/17/2006

Text:

John 1:4-5 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Introduction

In John 1:1-4a, we learned that the Word, described in that passage, is more appropriately called the God-Word because it is the self-expression of God, which is self-powered independently and eternally existing with the full attributes of God. The God-Word serves as the errand being of God. We also learned that, since there is life in the Word, when the Word is sent forth into any dead situation, the situation will be resuscitated. We also learned that the Word as creator is uniquely positioned to recreate. Therefore, any situation that has been damaged by the devil can be recreated or restored by the Word. The ability of the Word to resuscitate or bring life to a dead situation and to recreate a situation to its original divine destined purpose means the Word has restorative power. So, the Word brings life into dead situations and restores broken situations.

Our main text, John 1:4-5, teaches us that the Word produces light which cannot be overcome by any darkness. If that is the case then it is imperative that you must let the Word shine the unstoppable light into your dark situation. You must use the Word to dispel the darkness out of your life. You should take advantage of the light of the Word to focus light into your dark troubled situations.

The Word is the source and cause of light

John 1:4 reads, "In him [that is, in the Word] was life, and that life [which is in the Word] was the light of men." This means that the life that exists in the Word was the light of man. In other words, the Word is the source of the light or the Word generates light. Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." The Word as the lamp means it is the source of the light and the Word as a light for your path means it is the cause of the light that is in your path. When it is daytime we see clearly because the light of the sun shines. The source of the light is the sun, that is, the sun generates light, and what causes you to be able to see are the sun rays. That is, the sun rays cause the environment to become lighted. In spiritual terms, the source of light is the Word and the cause of a spiritually lighted environment is also the Word. So, the Word generates light and causes the light to shine in your life.

Psalm 119:130 puts it this way, "The unfolding of your words gives light." So, as you study the Word, apply the Word in principled Godly living, and use the Word in your circumstances the Word shines light into your circumstances. Your dark circumstances cannot remain the same with the light of the Word shining on it.

The Word's Light brings healing to your situations

One of my sister's babies was born with jaundice in Ghana. To bring healing to this boy he was taken out into the tropical sunshine daily to soak in the rays of the sun. This treatment is called phototherapy which nowadays is done with a machine. In phototherapy, the light shines on the baby and brings about healing. In the same way when you have a sick situation you may cure it

by unfolding the light of the Word into that situation. God refers to this spiritual phototherapy process when he spoke in Malachi 4:2-3, saying, “For you who revere my name, the sun [spelt S-U-N and not S-O-N] of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things.” This is a promise that those who revere God and hence the Word, a spiritual sun of righteousness will rise on them. When the sun of the solar system rises it shines light. So also is the Word, which is the sun of righteousness. When it rises on you it will bring light into your situation. This light of the Word is no ordinary light, but it is the light that brings healing, a light that brings restoration into your life. This light is no other light than the light that is sourced and caused by the Word.

So, as I have said when this light shines on your situation that is riddled with spiritual jaundice it will bring healing to that situation. God continues to speak as recorded in Malachi 4:3 that, as a result of this you will be energized by the light of the Word to go out and leap like horses who have been released from a stall for a horse race. If you have ever watched a horse race, once the stalls are open the horses gallop with power and fury. You do not want to be in their way. So, once your situation has been healed by the Word, the light energizes you and you are now able to go out with spiritual energy and destroy any obstacles in your way.

The Word’s light exposes the deeds of darkness.

Psalm 119:105 says, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” If the Word lights your path then it exposes any hidden traps that the enemy has set in your path. When I was a boy I stayed with my grandparents for about a year in the village. In that experience I learned that a lamp was essential equipment for walking on a path through the forest in the night. The lamp enables you to avoid stepping on poisonous snakes and reptiles, to avoid tripping on fallen trees, and to avoid falling into holes in the ground. The light exposes the things in the dark that could harm you and so you can then bypass them. In the same way, as you use the Word in your daily life, the Word exposes things that the devil has set up in your path to kill you or injure you. Knowing what the enemy has planned against you allows you to take evasive action.

A key strategy in warfare is to know your enemy’s tactics because that allows you to develop measures to counter his plans. So, as the Word lights your path you can see the enemy’s tactics and then you can now fight more effective spiritual warfare. Warfare is both defensive and offensive. Without effective defense you cannot go on the offensive. The light helps you in your defense against the enemy in this way. Without the light the things that the enemy has setup in your path will look attractive but inside awaits deadly poison. That is how a trap is designed. The smelly meat is put on a mousetrap to lure the mouse to eat the meat and then when it takes the bite on the meat the trap snaps and kills the mouse. Without the Word you are defenseless against the enemy’s traps. With the Word the enemy’s offenses are nullified.

The Word’s light cannot be overcome by powers of this dark world.

Verse 5 reads, “The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.” This means that darkness is hostile to the light. That is, it fights the light. But the darkness cannot overcome the light and it cannot understand why it cannot overcome the light. That is why if you are someone who studies the Word, lives by the Word, and uses the Word you will get spiritual attacks. The dark world is hostile to your light. They will make all attempts to fight you in order to extinguish your light.

As a young boy living in the city whenever I returned to the village there was something about a lone lighted bulb in the dark that intrigued me. This single light bulb was outside shining in the dark. The light bulb attracted bugs, who fly and hit the lighted bulb. This attack by the bugs against the light bulb happened through the night so long as the light bulb was shining. Once you turn the light bulb off the bugs stop attacking it. This is so true of spiritual things. So long as the Word is operating in you demons and evil spirits will work through people to attack you to try to extinguish your light. So if you want to live by the Word you must be prepared to face spiritual attacks and you must persevere through the spiritual attacks.

What intrigued me more was that each bug that attacked the lighted bulb died shortly after the attack. This is because the lighted bulb generates heat and when a bug attacked it and fastened itself to the bulb shortly after that the bug was burnt to death by the heat of the lighted bulb. So, take courage, continue to ingest the Word, live by the Word, and use the Word and the Word will serve as the source and cause of light to generate spiritual heat to burn off each spiritual attack.

The Word's light drives out chaos and darkness

As I said before, darkness in this verse 5 is antagonistic to the light. That is, it attacks the light. But the darkness cannot overcome the light and it cannot understand why it cannot overcome the light. If you light a lamp in the day time, when it gets dark the darkness does not drive out the light. The light still maintains its sphere of illumination. On the other hand, when it is dark and you light a lamp, the light from the lamp drives out the darkness. So, the light overcomes the darkness but the darkness does not and cannot overcome the light. Light and darkness are not equal opposites. Light is not the opposite of darkness. Light is stronger than darkness because light drives out darkness but darkness cannot drive out light.

In the same way, any spiritual darkness in the form of anxiety, uncertainty, confusion, or chaos cannot overcome the light inherent in the creative and restorative Word of God. The light of the Word is all powerful. So use the light of the Word to drive out any dark circumstances in your life. Jesus affirmed this when he said in John 12:46, "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." As a believer you should not be in dark circumstances. You may face trials but you should not remain in dark circumstances.

The Word is strong enough to break-apart any darkness

You can set something on fire by focusing intense light on it. When we were in secondary school we did an experiment where we used a lens to focus the sun rays onto paper. The paper starts to burn because of the intensity of the light. This principle works even on stronger objects by using a laser beam. A laser beam light can be focused to cut through an iron bar. The intense focused light generates heat that breaks the strong iron. In the same way, if you unfold the Word into your strongly troubled and pitch dark situation and focus the light, without giving up, the situation will begin to melt like wax. Whatever problems have solidified as iron in your life will begin to melt away. No problem can withstand the intense focused light of the Word.

The Word's light drives out demonic activity

I visited an apartment that was infested with cockroaches. When we went to sleep my host turned the light off in the kitchen. Sometime during the night I went to the kitchen to get a drink. When I turned the light on a whole bunch of cockroaches scattered away very quickly from the middle of the floor. You see, cockroaches assemble freely doing all kinds of filthy things in darkness. When you turn on the light they all disappear very quickly; they get out of your way. So it is with demons and people who operate evil spirits. They do their destructive work in the

darkness of this world under satanic direction. That is why Paul says, “our struggle is against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world.” These are the cockroaches of the spiritual world. But when the light of the self-powered restorative Word shines into the darkness, it drives out all the demonic activity of the darkness. The darkness cannot stand the shining light of the Word. It must dissipate; it must go away; it must disappear. Such is the power of the Word.

Conclusion

So, use the God-Word to shine the light to drive out the demonic operatives who are troubling you. Use the Word to light your path to avoid the enemy’s traps. Use the heat generated by the light of the Word to burn off demons. Use the Word to shine the light to bring healing to your troubled situations. Take advantage of the restorative power of the Word in the light of the Word.

How do you do this?

You must be sanctioned by God to use the restorative power of the Word by becoming a child of God. You become a child of God by accepting Jesus Christ as your personal savior and lord. You must study the Bible, which is the Word of God, and memorize parts of the Word. You must spend time in prayer using the Word that you have memorized to deal with the dark situations in your life. You must live a life consistent with the Word that you have studied.

Use God’s self-powered and luminous Word to restore your broken situations and expel any dark circumstances in your life.

I pray for the light of the Word to shine into your marriage to restore your marriage to the divine order of marriage because “what God has joined together, let man not separate.” (Matthew 19:6)

I pray for the light of the Word to shine into your career to restore your career to your divinely appointed destiny.

I pray for the light of the Word to shine into your finances to restore your finances to your divinely appointed destiny.

I pray for the light of the Word to shine into all situations in your life to restore them to your divinely appointed destiny because Jesus has come that you may have life, and have it to the full and furthermore God has said in Jeremiah 29:11 concerning your situation, “I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

May you fully realize God’s plan for your life in every situation of your life. Amen.