

The Light of God

How bright does the light of God shine in our lives? Well, that would depend on how much of it we let in. People often instruct us to “have faith” and to “trust God”, but I think these words tend to lose their meaning. We hear them so much that we do not consider how important they are. This applies to many aspects of our faith. Let’s take prayer for example. When we pray, we should be mentally aware that we are coming before God in faith. I think many of us could admit that we have been guilty of not being fully invested in every prayer, but rather performing an empty action out of habit. The same could be said about worship. Do we attend church mentally prepared to exalt God, or has it become a mindless routine?

First century Christians lived constantly aware of God’s presence. They wanted every shred of His light to be evident in their lives because they knew how important it was. When Peter was in prison and was about to be killed, God’s intervention meant life or death. The brethren were in constant prayer on Peter’s behalf, and you can be certain that when they bowed their heads their hearts were focused on God. We can see how important this was to them in the book of Acts:

Acts 12:13-15 (NKJV)

And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer. When she recognized Peter's voice, because of her gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate. But they said to her, "You are beside yourself!" Yet she kept insisting that it was so. So they said, "It is his angel."

If we are faithful believers in God, He should be visible in our lives. God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. That means that God’s light is constant and cannot be extinguished. If we are faithful believers in Him, He should *always* be the center of our attention. We must not allow our faith to become a sequence of monotonous routines. Our prayers, our worship, and our every day actions should be overflowing with God’s indestructible light.

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Whatever we do, we should always behave in a manner which illuminates the essence of God to all who see us. Needless to say, not any one of us is perfect. But that does not excuse us from trying to behave like the Christians we committed ourselves to be. Let us live our lives in a manner that is pleasing to God. While on earth, we are going to be bound to something: either to sin unto death or to God unto life. Let us live in sincere faith in the God who saved us from sin. We should pray to Him with a faithful and trusting heart and let His light shine. After all, it was God who sent His only begotten Son into this world to die for our sins.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NKJV)

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Adrian

Announcements:

Our Minister is available upon request for personal Bible Studies on any topic. Please see the front of the bulletin for his contact information.

The Ladies Retreat will be Friday, Nov. 2 – Saturday, Nov. 3. This will be an optional overnight. More information next week. If you would like to contribute to this event please see Margaret Heinesh.

The bulletin is now on our website. Check it out.

<http://www.churchofchristswsa.com>