

16 05 21

Spiritual darkness Pt 1 Satan and his ministers are darkness

This is our first study on spiritual darkness. In our previous study on light we established – (1) Israel's prophets were "light", (2) Christians were sometimes darkness, but now are children of light, and (3) Christians are the light of the world, we are to shine as light. In this study we establish (1) The power of Satan is spiritual darkness, (2) Satan's ministers are wolves in sheep's clothing, and (3) we wrestle against spiritual darkness, spiritual wickedness in high places.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. The power of Satan is spiritual darkness

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18).

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Cor.4: 4).

2. Satan's ministers are wolves in sheep's clothing

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matt.7: 15). See also – Matt.10: 16

3. We wrestle against this spiritual wickedness in high places

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph.6: 12).

Illustration

When the church relegate the devil and his devices to "myth", such that any use of his name is symbolic and not literal then we demonstrate our spiritual blindness. It is no different to the Jehovah Witness cult who relegate the Lord Jesus to "a god" – they show the depth of their spiritual darkness, their blindness.

Question to think about.

What are the characteristics of spiritual darkness?

Answer from the scriptures

Characteristics of spiritual blindness, spiritual darkness include–

In spiritual blindness they put darkness for light, and light for darkness – "Woe unto them that...put darkness for light, and light for darkness...!" (Is.5: 20).

"The way of the wicked is as darkness..." (Prov.4: 19).

Spiritual darkness is where a person leaves the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness – "Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness" (Prov.2: 13).

Spiritual darkness is where a person can say that the Son of God has a devil – Jn.7: 20 – "The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?" (See also: Jn.8:48, 52). Or that He is not who He says He is – the Messiah, the Son of God (Mk.14: 62).

As we wrestle with these spiritual powers in high places let us be mindful of those who are Satan's ministers, wolves in sheep's clothing who deny the deity of Christ, who say there is no hell and no devil! Let not your mind be darkened by Satan's lies!