

23 05 21

Spiritual darkness Pt 2 Cast off the works of darkness

This is our second study on darkness. In our our previous teaching we established three points – (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. In this study we establish an additional three points – (1) There is spiral darkness in the world, (2) the lost man loves darkness rather than light, (3) Christians are not in darkness, and (4) cast off the works of darkness.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. There is spiritual darkness in the world

“Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous” (Ps.112: 4).

As previous covered – we wrestle against the rulers of the darkness of this world
“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world” (Eph/6: 12).

2. The lost man loves darkness rather than light

“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light...” (Jn.3: 19).

3. Christians are not in darkness

“But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief” (1 Thes.5: 4).

4. **CAST off** the works of darkness

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light” (Rom 13:12).

Illustration

When a man in the body of Christ has “his father’s wife”, and “are puffed up, and have not mourned” (1Cor.5: 1 & 2), or when a brother is exhorted time and time again for their sin, yet refuses to depart from iniquity because they find solace in the things of the flesh then you know that they have not cast off the works of darkness.

Question to think about.

What happens if we **chose** NOT to cast off “the works of darkness”.

Answer from the scriptures

- i) God will chastise us, “that we should not be condemned with the world” – (1 Cor. 11: 32), or the Lord will take us home early – as with the example in 1 Cor.5: 1–5.
- ii) The heathen who knew us to be Christian by our words will see us as hypocrites.
- iii) We cannot “revenge all disobedience” until our obedience is fulfilled– (2 Cor.10: 6). Hence, the weapons God has given us are ineffective until we cast off the works of darkness, and depart from iniquity.
- iv) We cannot put on the armour of light.
- v) God cannot use us to guide the lost out of darkness.

The more time we spend in fellowship with those that love darkness– the more their evil, the darkness of this world will cling to us. Let us cast off the works of darkness.