

LIVING IN THE LIGHT NOT IN DARKNESS

If anyone is in Christ he or she is a new creation.

We must be have a “new life,” or in other words, be “born again.”

But this is an internal work, not external. A work of the Spirit, not of the flesh.

Feelings are real, but may not be true. If we live by our feelings, we may reject the truth.

Everyone who does evil hates the light and loves darkness, they are afraid of being exposed.

Are you “living in the light,” or are you “dwelling in the darkness?”

After Jesus was crucified, Joseph of Arimathea, accompanied by Nicodemus, took Jesus' body and prepared it for burial.

Both Joseph and Nicodemus had followed Jesus secretly (in the darkness), but now were doing so openly (in the light).

Jesus' motivation for going to the cross was love, but love was not just his motivation, it was also His attitude.

We must be motivated by love and not by duty.

The stone was rolled away from Jesus' tomb, not so that He could get out, but so others could get in, so that they could see that Jesus was no longer dead, but that He was alive!

God wants to help us move earthly things out of the way, that get in our way of experiencing His life and His resurrection.

Three points of encouragement:

1. Come out of darkness.

Are we like Nicodemus who wanted to keep his relationship with Jesus a secret?

Our relationship with Jesus needs to be in the daylight.

Come out of the darkness of our sins.

2. Come to Jesus and stay in Him, don't just come for a visit.

Hang on to the Word of God for dear life and don't let go.

When we forget His Word we tend to look for life among what is dead.

Jesus is His Word.

3. Make Jesus your plan A.

Get rid of plans B through Z and go all out for plan A.

Jesus loves you more than anyone else can, make Him your top priority.

SCRIPTURE LIST

2 Corinthians 5:17

John 3:14-21

Numbers 21

John 19:31-42

Luke 24:1-8

John 15:5-17

John 14:6

Revelation 1:18

Luke 8:17