

Matthew 6:22-23, Luke 11:33-36 – The Light and the Body

Introduction

1. Jonathan Edwards: Desperate Blindness
2. The Fall of Man caused all people to fall into darkness; a blindness
3. John Newton: No power to enlighten our own minds
4. Christ alone is able to get us from darkness to light (**Col 1:13-14**)
5. Deception is when one thinks they are in the light, when in reality they are in the darkness

Main Idea: Do not be deceived. Do not walk in darkness, walk in the light of God. Christ is the Light!

The Command: Do Not Be Deceived! (Luke 11:35)

1. God is Light – Walk in the Light (**1 Jn 1:5-7, Prov 14:12, Mt 7:21-23**)
2. Deception causes one to think they are right, but are distant from truth
3. Pharisees believed themselves to be the light, and Christ the darkness
4. Jesus exposes their darkness and this would mean they would have to receive Christ, repent, and turn from their false Judaism to Him
 - a. They would need to acknowledge Jesus as the true Light
 - b. They rejected Christ as the Light, as God (**1 John 1:5b, Heb 1:1-3**)
 - i. In Christ is the nature and character of God – One Substance
 - ii. Zechariah prophesied about Jesus as the Light (**Luke 1:76-79**)
 - iii. Jesus claims deity as the Light of the world (**John 8:12**)
5. Deception: directs the thoughts, beliefs, claims light when it is darkness
 - a. The Pharisees were blind to God in the flesh
 - b. Jesus warns us to be careful what we find as bright, attractive, compelling for if it is not Christ, you will be filled with darkness
6. Christ was given by the Father to the world to be its Light, illuminating the truth and way for all to see, believe, and follow (**John 1:4-5, 9-11**)
 - a. Jesus gives light to everyone, but not all receive Him because the problem is not a light issue, it is a sight issue
 - b. The darkness cannot comprehend, grasp, understand the Light
 - c. The darkened mind rejects the Light (**John 3:19-21**)
 - d. Rejected when if received makes life fulfilling, complete, lacking in nothing

The Clarification: Deception and Darkness (Mat 6:22-23, Lk 11:33-34, 36)

1. Three Ways of Being Deceived
 - a. The desire to see the Light – Do you want to see the Light?
 - i. God did not hide the Light – He hoisted the Light on a stand
 - ii. God gave His Son so all will see the Truth
 - iii. Jesus was the Light and brought the Light to all
 - iv. God's desire was for all to see the Light
 1. What about the purpose of parables? (**Matthew 13:10-17**)
 2. Judgment on those who reject the Light of Christ
 - v. If you do want the Light, do you understand that God will drive out the darkness? His Light will come in, sinfulness will go out
 - vi. The Light exposes what is uncomfortable

- b. The thoughts you have on what is and is not Light
 - i. The healthy and unhealthy eye – Light enters into a physically healthy eye and the whole body is able to respond
 - ii. The spiritual eye is the same – light enters the mind and heart (the spiritual receptor) and this determines the spiritual condition of the soul – it is sound with light or in darkness
 - iii. A deceived mind is controlled by sin and is evil
 - iv. The Pharisees were evil on the inside which is why their spiritual eyes could not see the light of Christ
 - v. No matter how much light was given, they could not see
 - vi. The problem is not the quantity or quality of light, the problem was the blind spiritual eye
 - vii. We are all born this way: spiritually blind (**Ephesians 4:17-18**)
 - viii. An awakened heart by God can see Christ as the Light
- c. The spiritual fruit produced by the Light or “light”
 - i. Both darkness and light produces fruit (**Matthew 7:17-20**)
 - ii. The Lord lights the lamp of the soul (He saves us) and it radiates outward (**Ephesians 5:8-10**)
 - iii. What is good, right, and true will be produced by Christ within
 - iv. Wrong to think that God's grace and forgiveness will abound through sinfulness (**Romans 6:1-2**)
 - v. Measure everything by the Word of God and destroy your own wisdom by it for a sanctified mind has the light of Christ poured into it

The Christ: Our Light! (Luke 11:33-34, 36)

1. Christ is the Light and cannot be overlooked (**Verse 33**) – His resurrection from the dead is a lamp not to be hidden or missed (**Jn 9:5**)
2. When you see Christ for who He actually is – the Lord of Glory, Savior, King, God in the Flesh – He is your Light (**Verse 34**)
 - a. Your eye is healthy if you behold Christ the right way
 - b. True purpose, meaning, and fulfillment is part of all of life
 - c. Christ is the Light you need!
3. Charles Spurgeon: If you have a little light, value it greatly