

THE NIGHT COMETH

MATTHEW 5

Text: Matthew 5:14-16

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¹⁴Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Introduction:

(John 9:1-4) "And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. {2} And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? {3} Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. {4} I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

1. WHAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE NIGHT?

A. Fear.

(Song 3:8 KJV) They all hold swords, being expert in war: every man hath his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night.

1. Things that we have began to fear.

- a. People
- b. Peers
- c. Government
- d. Law

2. Fear is not of God.

(2 Timothy 1:7-8) "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. {8} Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;"

B. Increased Iniquity

(1 Th 5:7 KJV) For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

(2 Timothy 3:13) "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

1. Crime goes up.

Illus. It is vital we maintain our stand not our distance from the world; the world is always moving away from God.

C. Colder Climate

1. We need a warm heart for the lost

- a. Christian schools and home schoolers must guard against becoming cold.

2. We must fight sin in the church; not the sinner in the world.

D. Natural Sleepiness

(Psa 44:23) "Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord? arise, cast us not off for ever."

(Mark 14:37) "And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?"

(Jonah 1:6) "So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not."

(Proverbs 10:5) "He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame."

E. Decreased Vision

Micah 3:6 Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

1. Where there is no vision people perish.

(Proverbs 29:18) "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

Illus.. Night Vision in the Gulf war.

2. People need to believe it can be done.

(Matthew 19:26) "But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

(Mark 9:23) "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

(Mark 10:27) "And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible."

2. THE CAUSE FOR CONCERN

(Mat 25:1-13 KJV) "Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. {2} And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. {3} They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: {4} But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. {5} While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. {6} And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. {7} Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. {8} And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. {9} But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. {10} And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door

was shut. {11} Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. {12} But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. {13} Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

A. Some will be lost.

(Mat 24:36-44 KJV) "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. {37} But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. {38} For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, {39} And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. {40} Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {41} Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. {42} Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. {43} But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. {44} Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

B. Some will be left.

C. Some will lose their loved ones.

3. THE CURE

A. Work while it is day.

(John 9:4 KJV) "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

B. Trust him today, while He can be found.

(Isa 55:6-8 KJV) "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: {7} Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. {8} For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."

Close:

(Rom 13:12 KJV) 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.

(John 9:4) "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

(Rev 21:25 KJV) And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

(Rev 22:5 KJV) And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

(John 9:4) "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

It is growing darker and darker every day. We must get busy do His work.

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John 9:1-4