# Living as Light

Matthew 5:14-16

The Quiet Transforming Power of Light

## The Quiet Transforming Power Of Light

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV)

#### The Quiet Transforming Power Of The Morning's New Light

Troubled Dark Soul of Night Chasing me, plaguing me, overcoming me Penetrating my heart, my mind and deepest recesses of my soul Oh! This Troubled Dark Soul of Night Desperation, desperation,... Where might I find relief, where might I find my rest, my peace?

#### The Quiet Transforming Power Of The Morning's New Light

The Liberation of Light over the Morning's Waving Wheat Field There, in the earliest morning's wheat field In the quiet and solace of the lone morning

How many times, there I found my quiet peace There I heard for the first time the sound of the Bob White There I witnessed the gentle breeze brushing over the golden locks of grain There at my morning's field I witnessed The Quiet Transforming Power Of The Morning's New Light

#### The Quiet Transforming Power Of The Morning's New Light

Troubled Dark Soul of Night Good bye, good bye Troubled Dark Soul of Night Thank God, Thank God For I have witnessed The Quiet Transforming Power Of The Morning's New Light And there, in the Morning's New Light I have found my Life

Keith C. Brown

#### In Our Dark & Troubled World Jesus is Our Hope and Light

"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (John 9:5, NIV) – Jesus

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and <u>the bright Morning Star</u>." (Revelation 22:16, NIV)

#### Our Purpose In Being Light is the Same For Us Today As It Was For The Early Disciples

"For this is what the Lord has commanded us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, <u>that you may bring salvation to</u> <u>the ends of the earth</u>." (Acts 13:47) – Paul & Barnabus

"to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." (Acts 26:18, NIV) – Jesus to Paul

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# The Best Place For Light To Break Forth – Is Through The Dark Storms of Life



## Light Goes the Extra Mile Through The Darkness...

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' 39 But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. 43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:38-48, NIV) – Jesus

#### "Light bears up under unjust suffering..."

"For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. 21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Peter 2:19-25, NIV) – Peter

## **Light of Wives**

"Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear." (1 Peter 3:1-6, NIV) – Peter

#### **Light of Husbands**

"Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers." (1 Peter 3:7, NIV) -Peter

## **Light of All Christians**

"Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing." (1 Peter 3:8-9, NIV) - Peter

## Someone We Love Is Lost In The Darkness

Our Lost Friends & Family members are <u>reacting</u> to the darkness

- Anger
- Frustration
- Impatience
- Hurt
- Defensive
- Hate
- Bound up in sin...

Christians are to <u>be light</u> in their presence

- Gentleness
- Relief
- Patience
- Healing
- Deliverance found in Jesus
- Love of God
- Freedom in Christ

#### Being Light In The Dark Storms of Peoples Lives

Maybe, just maybe, if we will really trust Jesus' teaching we will become just what many lost friends need. We will become as the quiet transforming power of light in the midst of our loved ones' dark storm. And they will witness Jesus in us, they will repent, and they will with us praise our Heavenly Father.

#### A Word of Encouragement from God's Spirit saying...

"...the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." (Matthew 4:16, Isaiah 9:2,NIV)

- Matthew, Apostle of Jesus Christ, quoting The Prophet Isaiah