

The Strategy of Satan Part 5 A Hidden Light

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Aug. 11th

2 Cor 2:11 *"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."*

Reflection: Some of Satan's devices include:

- Removing the "Strong man" as the leader/protector of the family. Mark 3:27
- Removing Marriage as the foundation of Society. Heb. 13:4
- Removing the Scriptures (God's Word) as the Standard of Society. Ro. 1:28
- Removing the church (God's People) as the Salt & light (Hope) of society.

Last week we discussed Jesus' message in Mt. 5:13 that his disciples (Vs 1): ***"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It's henceforth good for nothing..."***

Salt (like Christians) can be rendered ineffective by Contamination/Dilution from other things.

We learned that Contamination with worldly things and thinking tends to:

➔ **Distract** and even entangle us. Mk 4:19; 2 Tim. 2:4

➔ **Infect** us. 1 Jn 5:19,21; 1 Cor 5:6,7; 2 Pt 2:8

➔ **Conform** us to the world's thinking / values. Ro. 12:2; Phil. 3:18,19; James 4:4; 1 Jn 2:15

Salt and Light can also be rendered **"good for nothing"** by contamination as well as Isolation!

1. The Reality Mt 5:14 *"Ye are the light of the world."*

A. Who? **"Ye"** Who was (is) referring to? Mt 5:1 *"His disciples came to him 2 ...and he taught them" (mathētēs: learner, follower) (Jn 10:11,27) "My sheep hear my voice ... and they follow me!"*

B. When? **"Ye are"** (este: present tense verb)

1) Not someday, but now! Jn 9:4,5 *"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*

C. What? **"The light"** (Phōs: to shine, reveal, manifest) *of the world"*

1) Darkness and light are metaphors

a) Darkness represents Satan and his deceit. (Acts 26:18; Lk 22:53; 2 Cor 4:4)

b) Light represents God and Truth. Eph 5:8 *"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:... And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."*

Col 1:12-13 *"Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of his Son"*

D. Where? **"ye are the light of the world."** Mk 16:15 *"Go ye into all the world ..."*

2. The Reason: To Reveal Mt 5:15,16 *"A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives light unto all that are in the house. Let your light (phos: to manifest) so shine (lampō: radiate) before men, that they may see your good (kalos: virtuous) works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

A. Jesus came to reveal to the world:

1) Who God is. (Heb. 1:1-3; Jn 1:5-14; Jn 9:4,5)

- 2) How we can come to know Him. Jn 14:6,7; Jn 17:3 *“this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”*
- 3) How we can partner/fellowship with God. Mt 11:29 *“Take my yoke upon you and learn of me”*
 1 Cor 3:9 *“We are laborers together with God”* Jn 15:5 *“I am the vine, ye are the branches...”*
 1 Jn 1:7 *“If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another...”*

B. This is what we’re to do! By our Words & Works, reveal who Jesus is *and what he’s done for us.*

Lk 24:48 *“Ye are witnesses of these things.”*

Jn 8:12 *“I am the light of the world he that followeth (akoloutheō: joins) me shall not walk in darkness,*
 (see 1 Jn 1:5-10) *but shall have the light of life.”*

- 1) God calls this our *“reasonable service”* Ro. 12:1; 2 Cor. 5:15,16; Gal. 2:20,21
- 2) This enables God’s Spirit to shine/work through us. Gal 2:20 *“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”*

3. The Resistance John 3:19-21 *“This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

21 *But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”*

Conclusion:

Mt 5:14-16 *“Ye are the light of the world. ...*

*Let your light so shine before men,
 that they may see your good works,
 and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*

Application:

1) God calls us to **Reflect** His light. (Like the Moon reflects the Sun)

➤ *How much of this world is blocking the “Son” from reflecting in your life?* Phil. 3:19

2) God calls us to **Radiate** His light. Phil. 2:12-16 *“Work out your own salvation...*

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life!”

Ps 119:105 *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”*

Ps 119:130 *“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”*

Ps 119:11 *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart,
 that I might not sin against thee.”*

***What priority does God’s word have
 in your life? (Ps. 19:7-14)***

