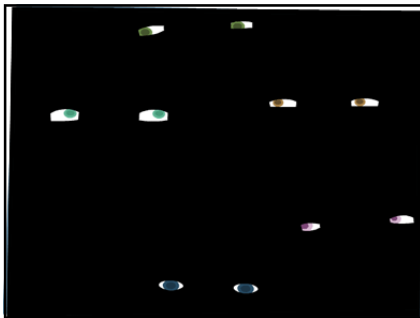


NEVER sat in DARKNESS? ...then YOU'RE STILL sitting THERE!

After Jesus heard that John the Baptist, his cousin, was cast into prison, he departed Nazareth and came into Galilee. He dwelt in Capernaum, fulfilling prophecy:

"The people which SAT [TO REMAIN; RESIDE] in DARKNESS [SHADINESS; OBSCURITY] SAW GREAT LIGHT; and to them which SAT in the REGION [EMPTY EXPANSE; A SPACE OF TERRITORY] and SHADOW of death [SHADY; DARKNESS OF ERROR] LIGHT IS SPRUNG UP" (Matt. 4:12-16).



There are millions of professing Christians who read their bibles, are active in their religious communities, shouting and praising God, who NEVER remember a TIME when they once SAT in DARKNESS!

Notice that the people SAT! They REMAINED! They RESIDED! They were STATIONARY! They were CONTENT!

Consider the ORDER of progression found in Psalm 1:1, *"Blessed is the man that WALKETH NOT in the COUNSEL [ADVICE] of the ungodly, nor STANDETH IN THE WAY of sinners, nor SITTETH IN THE SEAT of the scornful."*

This progression is one of decline! It is one of blindness and contentment, WALKING NEAR what is forbidden, STANDING NEAR what is forbidden, and finally, SITTING, or ENGAGING IN what is forbidden. Do you remember being delivered from such a darkness?

ALL MEN ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE in this world because the Son of God has brought "...LIFE [ETERNAL LIFE]; and the LIFE was the LIGHT of men. And the LIGHT shineth in DARKNESS [DIMNESS; OBSCURITY]; and the darkness COMPREHENDED IT NOT" (John 1:4-5).

Jesus Christ IS this "...TRUE LIGHT [WHICH IMPLIES THAT THERE ARE FALSE LIGHTS OUT THERE TOO], which LIGHTETH EVERY MAN that cometh into the world" (John 1:9). EVERYONE has been, or will be, exposed to this LIGHT, and if you REJECT IT, you will pay for it eternally!



If YOU profess to be a Christian, and DO NOT REMEMBER coming "...OUT OF DARKNESS into His MARVELLOUS LIGHT" (1 Peter 2:9), then you are STILL IN YOUR SINS! Every person who is BORN BLIND, and suddenly RECEIVES THEIR SIGHT, KNOWS IT!



There are people today who have been exposed to the LIGHT OF GOD'S HOLY WORD, yet "...are PURE in their OWN eyes, and... {ARE}...NOT WASHED from their FILTHINESS [EXCREMENT; DIRT; POLLUTION]" (Proverbs 30:12). They simply "...WILL NOT COME..." to God, that they "...MIGHT HAVE LIFE" (John 5:40)!

There are TWO kinds of Christians which are described here: "...IF therefore thine EYE be SINGLE [ON CHRIST], thy WHOLE BODY shall be FULL OF LIGHT.

But if thine EYE be EVIL, thy WHOLE BODY shall be FULL OF DARKNESS.

IF therefore the LIGHT THAT IS IN THEE be DARKNESS, how GREAT IS THAT DARKNESS" (Matt. 6:22-23).

The most difficult person to be saved, is one who is convinced they are going to heaven, while STILL SITTING IN DARKNESS!

With the innumerable religious beliefs in the world, accompanied by personal feelings, experiences, dreams or visions, very few will dare to even question their spiritual standing.

That's why we are ADMONISHED to "...GIVE DILIGENCE [EAGERNESS; EARNESTNESS] to MAKE YOUR CALLING [YOUR INVITATION TO SALVATION] and ELECTION [SELECTION] SURE [STABLE]: for if ye DO THESE THINGS, ye shall NEVER FALL" (2 Peter 1:10).

Knowing how deceitful Satan IS, causing millions to ROAM away from the TRUTH, we are always to "EXAMINE {OURSELVES} [TO TEST; TO SCRUTINIZE], whether {WE} be IN THE FAITH; PROVE [TO TEST] YOUR OWN SELVES. KNOW YE NOT YOUR OWN SELVES, how that Jesus Christ is IN YOU, except ye be REPROBATES [UNAPPROVED; REJECTED; WORTHLESS]" (2 Cor. 13:5)?

There will be NOTHING WORSE than dying, and opening your EYES in Hell, expecting to go to heaven because you...sang in the choir, faithfully tithed, a good Catholic, Methodist, Mormon, Jehovah Witness, read your bible, done many good works, etc.

Jesus came, and FULFILLED "...the RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LAW" (Romans 8:4) by doing what we couldn't do: "...being found in FASHION as a man, he HUMBLED HIMSELF, and became OBEDIENT UNTO DEATH, even the death of the CROSS" (Philip. 2:8).

Do you remember BELIEVING ON JESUS as a little child believes its parents? "He that believeth ON HIM is not condemned: but he that believeth NOT is condemned already, because he HATH NOT BELIEVED in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).

