

Walking In The Light

His eyes are on the ways of mortals;
he sees their every step.
Job 34:21



These days in the Western world, and especially in the United States, it's popular to think that we can pretty much do what we want, as long as we aren't hurting anyone else. In fact, the original concepts of individual rights built into the Constitution of the United States have become distorted to the point that people believe it's their right to behave as they please and that the government must protect individual rights, even to the extent that it must protect behavior that is obviously immoral according to the Word of God.

How can we imagine that we can do whatever we please? Where does the idea come from that we have the right to be the gods of our own lives? The Bible tells us that this is the root of the first temptation of man, when Satan convinced Adam and Eve that it was desirable to make their own decisions about things and to forget what God had told them about right and wrong.

Before they gave in to that original temptation, Adam and Eve used to enjoy evening walks with God in the Garden of Eden. He would come in the evening when their day's work was done and they would enjoy personal communion with Perfect Love. Now, though, since sin has come into the world, we get the same feeling that Adam and Eve had the first time that God came to visit after they had sinned: They were ashamed and they tried to hide themselves from God.

The idea of God being able to see all that we do and even to know what is in our hearts can seem very uncomfortable. A lot of people are so uncomfortable about that concept that they do many things to try to forget that God is always looking. Some people like to fill their minds with constant entertainment, or deaden their senses with alcohol or drugs so they don't have to think about it. And so many people feel that it's a burden to go to church. Instead of looking forward to special communion with the Perfect Love of Jesus, we are tempted by many things to find excuses to not accept God's invitation to spend some personal time with Him, at least once a week.

But Jesus died for us; first so that we would not be condemned to eternal separation from the love of God, and then also that we might be able to enjoy an abundant life. Having an abundant life means that life can be joyfully lived in the full sight of God. Even though we will still continue to sin, we can rest in the comfort that our sin is washed away. So whenever we have the chance to be intimate with God, we don't need to feel any sense of shame or of needing to hide. Instead, we can freely confess our sins to God so that He can take away the burden of each sin and carry that for us, giving us His "easy yoke" to carry instead.

It's like being able to tell your problems to your best friend. Once we are convinced by the Holy Spirit that we have been freed from sin by Jesus, suddenly there is no more fear of God and no more reason to cover ourselves with fig leaves or try to hide from God. Instead, we can walk through life with a sense of being out in the open, walking in the light. As the book of Job tells us, God is able to see our every step anyway. How much happier we can be, knowing that the light of God's vision sees us washed clean. His ability to see us should make us feel protected and loved.

The more we get comfortable with walking in this light of God's love for us, the easier it gets to make good decisions for our lives and to strive to get with God's plan for us...His plan comes from perfect love, so it must be good for us.

Let's pray that God will inspire each of us with a conviction about His love, and that the Helper that Jesus promised to send us, the Holy Spirit, will enable us to use the freedom we enjoy in the United States to set good examples for others of what it should really mean to be free. Let's also commit to lifting each other up, especially by making a commitment to answer God's invitation to share communion with Him in a special way each Sunday, where we also share a happy communion with each other as we bask in the warm rays that are the light of God watching over us.

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