

Light Amidst Growing Darkness

"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16 NASB

We are living at a time when the moral darkness and decay of our culture seems to be racing to a crescendo of unparalleled proportions. The gradual extraction of 'absolute truth' from almost every sector of our society, has set mankind adrift on the stormy seas of relativism and personal pragmatism.

The world needs LIGHT, yet hates it! John tells us in his gospel – "And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God." John 3:19-21

Why? Because LIGHT has an opponent..."The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." 2Cor.4:4

It is time that we realise God's call to be light – so let's consider four truths that we see in Matthew 5:13-16:

- **Shine Concurrently – Matt.5:13-14**

Light is in parallel with something else. Just as decay and darkness go together, so do salt and light. Salt speaks of influence and light speaks of radiance. What are some of the unique features of light and salt as it relates to our life in Christ?

- **Shine Consciously – Matt.5:16**

Let your light shine in such a manner...this speaks of conscious deliberate effort, not an automatic or unconscious thing. How do we develop such a mind? What is involved in living every moment of our lives with a conscious awareness that we are to be light and salt? What other realities of life in Christ parallel this truth?

- **Shine Conspicuously – Matt.5:14-15**

On a hill...or in the house, our lives are both public and private. What is relationship between the two? In which arena do you find it easier to live as light? Why is that? How conspicuous is your radiance the place GOD has you at present?

- **Shine Consistently – Matt.5:16**

Let you light 'so shine' ...this has the idea of phosphorescent, a continual, steady, and uninterrupted light. In the Body of Christ today there are sadly many 'inconsistent incandescents' and even some 'failing fluorescents'. May we never forget that the One who told us to let our light shine is the very source of our Life and Light.

A.W.Miln said..."When He came to us there was no light, when He left there was not darkness."

May that be said us, as we seek to shine forth the life of Christ is the growing darkness of these wonderful days of opportunity!
