

His Light For Our Darkest Days – Part 2

His Light for Our Confusion

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.”
John 8:12 (NLT)

Jesus said, “I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in darkness.” John 12:46 (LB)

Don’t be naive. There are difficult times ahead. As the end approaches, people are going to be self-absorbed, money-hungry, self-promoting, stuck-up, profane, contemptuous of parents, crude, coarse, dog-eat-dog, unbending, slanderers, impulsively wild, savage, cynical, treacherous, ruthless, bloated windbags, addicted to lust, and allergic to God. They’ll make a show of religion, but behind the scenes they’re animals. Stay clear of these people.
2 Timothy 3:1-5 (MSG)

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”
John 16:33 (NLT)

Jesus Gives Us:

- **A promise of peace in Him** - “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me.”
- **A reality of difficulty on earth** - “Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows.”
- **An assurance of victory over the world** - “But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

Faith does not help us to avoid dark days, faith enables us to be carried through dark days!

Principle: The answer for our confusion is to live in His light.

Living in His Light Means:

1. I trust God’s timing in my life even if it seems off.

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to

register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David’s ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.
Luke 2:1-7 (NLT)

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.
Luke 2:6 (NLT)

Mary might have felt that the timing was off.

- Her marriage was not yet consummated.
- The birth of her child would be in occupied territory.
- The census has totally disrupted all their plans.
- There was no support system in Bethlehem.
- The housing situation was inadequate.

Truths About God’s Timing:

A) God is aware of every individual moment of our lives.

Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11a (NLT)

B) God has set eternity in our hearts.

He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.
Ecclesiastes 3:11b (NLT)

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.
Luke 2:6 (NLT)

C) God decides when the time is right.

But when the right time came, the time God decided on, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born as a Jew, to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law so that he could adopt us as his very own sons.
Galatians 4:4-5 (TLB)

D) God’s timing brings about God’s plan.

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. They are the people he called, because that was his plan.
Romans 8:28 (NCV)

*All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. **Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.***

Ephesians 1:3-5 (NLT)

*Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, **to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.***

Luke 1:78-79 (NLT)