

COME TO THE LIGHT // Luke 11:27-36

Morning message from the series, The Gospel of Luke

In this passage, Jesus is ultimately teaching that there is no middle ground or gray area: either you're for him or you're against him. Either you're living in the light or dwelling in the dark. But how do we know whether we're living in light or dwelling in darkness, and how do we get from light to dark? In this and the preceding verses, we see three wrong responses or rejections of Jesus:

A Threefold Rejection:

1. Jesus is an evil man. (v. 15)

Some viewed Jesus as an evil man, ruled by and serving demons. This simply is not true.

2. Jesus is a moral man. (v. 27)

Some viewed Jesus as merely a moral man or a good teacher. This simply is not enough.

3. Jesus is a special man. (v. 16, 29)

Some viewed Jesus as an entertainer or sort of magician. They sought miracles and signs in order to be entertained, not in order to believe Jesus.

Jesus states that "This generation is an evil generation..." (v. 29) because they rejected the light of Christ, or in other words, were spiritually blind. Verses 33-36 go on to explain spiritual blindness and emphasize that main idea of this passage: Christ is the light of the world – do not reject the light.

Reasons to Come to the Light:

1. Invitation: Christ calls you to spiritual sight. (v. 33)

Jesus invites us to faithfully follow him, to step into the light, and to experience spiritual sight. It is not a command, but rather an invitation, open freely to anyone who would accept it.

2. Assurance: Healthy eyes make all the difference. (v. 34)

The eyes are the lamp of the body. Whether or not the lamp is lit is contingent on the health of the eyes. In other words, it is dependent on spiritual sight. Christ is the only one capable of turning on the light.

3. Warning: Don't be left in the dark. (v. 35)

Jesus is the only light! Do not be left in the darkness, spiritually blind.

4. Encouragement: A bright life is the best life. (v. 36)

Not only does Jesus change our lives with brightness, but he also makes us lights to others in a dark world. The light in our lives brings light to the lives of others. It is evangelistic – we are lamp-lighters. (Phil. 2:14)

How do we know whether we are living in light or dwelling in darkness? We must consider how we see Jesus. Not only will our lives change, but we can make an impact in the lives of others by staying close to Jesus and letting the light of Jesus shine in and through us. When we come to the light, Jesus brings light to our lives and makes us lamp-lighters for others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between living in light and dwelling in darkness? What does spiritual blindness have to do with it?
2. Choosing to live in the light is a continual decision. What are some ways that you practice living in the light?
3. It's challenging to learn that once we receive the light of Christ, we are expected to share the light with others. How have you seen "lamp-lighting" in practice? How can you be a light to others?