

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Luke 11:33-36, Ephesians 5:5-21

The fear of darkness ranks up there with the fear of snakes, heights, etc.

The fear of being lost in total darkness and no one to help you might be something that you may have experienced personally.

For example, when I was in the Air Force on guard duty during the night-shift, the darkness was so overwhelming out there in the field that fear would set in, and any amount of light would have been greatly appreciated.

Darkness brings and amplifies fears.

Light lessens and removes fears, if we have nothing to hide, and that applies to both our physical and spiritual life.

Jesus said: *"This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."* **John 3:19-21**

Notice he says: *"You were once **darkness**"* not in darkness but *"**Darkness**"*.

The moon in a clear night shines so brightly, but, the moon on its own is darkness, without the sun the moon will not, cannot shine. It is the sun – **"SUN"**. That makes the moon shine. No sun, no light in the darkness of night!

Similarly, we are darkness, we have no light on our own without the Son – "S.O.N", the Son of God, Jesus Christ. You see, NO SON no light in this dark world.

Ephesians 5:14

For it is light that makes everything visible, this is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

So when Jesus said: *"You are the light of the world"* in **Matthew 5:14** – He did not mean that we have any light of our own, for we are darkness without Him. We are the light only because of Him.

The question then is – "Is there a danger light becoming darkness?" or let me put this way: "Is it possible for a lighted lamp to be darkness?"

The Bible says: "Yes, it is possible."

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Luke 11:33-36, Ephesians 5:5-21

The moon is darkness when it is covered by another planet's shadow and stops receiving the sun's light.

It is a great privileged to be a light wherever we are, but we can only be a light if we reflect the real light. In other words we must become Christ's reflectors!

Now light is only of value when it is kept shining, what good is a light that is hidden, actually, it is useless. We cannot claim to be the light and yet not shine!

But we cannot shine while we are covered with sin. That is why Jesus said:
"See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness." **Luke 11:35**

When we and our deeds are exposed to the Son – Jesus – who is the source of light. We will shine just as the moon will shine as long as it is exposed to the sun.

Most of us have heard similar sermons or messages in the past, and most of us have probably agreed that we must shine and reflect God in our lives, and yet the question is: "Is our light a steady reflection of God in our daily life, or, often is darkness."

When we know the truth and the will of God is clear to us, and it is understood intellectually, but not put into practice, then the light is darkness.

When the Word of God is studied and is interpreted by the Holy Spirit to us, and we understood it but we do not let the Holy Spirit guide us, then the light in us is darkness.

The Bible says: *"But now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light and find out what pleases the Lord."* **Ephesians 5:8, 10**

How often do we shine? Do we shine once a week, twice?

Do we only shine when we go to church once or twice a week, or when we are in the company of believers? And then we turn off our light for the rest of the time?

The Bible says that we cannot be part time Christians, part time lights.

We must shine all the time, that's *"What pleases God."* **Ephesians 5:10**

We cannot, must not, compromise with the sinful things of darkness. Jesus makes that very clear, He said: *"See to it, then, that, the light within you is not darkness"* **Luke 11:35**

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Luke 11:33-36, Ephesians 5:5-21

In **Ephesians 5:12-14** we read: *“For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: ‘Wake up, O sleeper, Rise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you.’”*