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Is your heart full of light or darkness?

DARKNESS CALLED LIGHT

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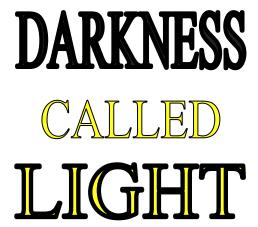
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One day, while speaking to the multitude, Christ told them that they were an evil generation.

"And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: ..." (Luke 11:29)

Then He warned them not to think their dark and evil lifestyles were actually full of light and righteousness.

"Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness." (Luke 11:35)

Early in creation, God had spoken physical light into existence.

"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." (Genesis 1:3-5)

This physical light became an illustration of the contrast between spiritual light and spiritual darkness. This contrast is a prominent theme

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throughout the Bible. Notice that God declared light to be "good." However, Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. After that, each person has entered this world with a lying and darkened soul.

"The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies." (Psalms 58:3)

We're each born with innate desires to have our own way regardless of what God has decreed to be right. This state of mind can't be altered by anyone other than God, Himself. In fact, each sinful thought, or sinful act, earns an infinite punishment because it is against the infinitely Holy God. Nothing obligated God to rescue any individual from the eternal punishment they have earned. Without God's work in man's heart, all people would be left in spiritual darkness. They would use their own fallen priorities to guide their actions.

However, God the Son, Jesus Christ, took on perfect humanity by His virgin birth. He lived a life of perfect righteousness and then offered Himself to endure the infinite punishment His

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