

“WHEN DARKNESS IS FOUND IN YOUR LIGHT”

pride” locked in his mind.

(1) The above idea is supported by Scripture in 1 John 1:6 AMP:
“[So] if we say we are partakers together and enjoy fellowship with Him when we live and move and are walking about in darkness, we are [both] speaking falsely and do not live and practice the Truth [which the Gospel presents].”

- b. Why did this happen to Peter?
 - c. Because he did not follow the advise Paul gave in verse 11b, **“... but instead [let your lives be so in contrast as to] expose and reprove and convict them.”** (Amp.)
 - d. The **“them”** in the above scripture in which we are to expose, reprove and convict were the **“enterprises of darkness”**
 - e. Paul first said that we must “reprove” which means that we must subject the **“enterprises of darkness”** [as a photographic film] to the action of light.
7. This is clearly shown in Eph. 5:13, **“But when anything is exposed and reproved by the light, it is made visible and clear; and where everything is visible and clear there is light.”**
- a. The word reprove means to rebuke by voicing or conveying disapproval.
 - b. The actions of exposing and reprovng lead to convicting, which means to show or declare to be blameworthy of condemning.

{LESSON NUMBER 10} {8/30/2009}

“THE OPEN DOOR – WHEN UNDERSTANDING IS DARKENED”

X. All of the failures of Peter caused his understanding to be darkened and blindness to come to his heart, thus the **“Open Door”** to Satan.

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- A. This is proven in Eph. 4:18 when Paul tells of Gentiles in their perverseness, **“Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.”** Why?
1. This is answered in verse 19, **“In their spiritual apathy they have become callous and past feeling . . .”**
 - a. The word apathy means lack of interest (in spiritual things) or concern regarding matters of importance; indifference; lack of emotion or feeling.
 2. Paul says an amazing thing to Christians in verse 20, **“But you did not so learn Christ.**
 - a. This means that a Christian can and will do the same thing as the Gentile if he practices evil and remains in spiritual apathy.
 3. His answer in verse 22 was for the Christian to , **“Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lust and desires that spring from delusion.”**
 - a. Delusion is a false belief strongly held in spite of invalidating evidence.
 4. In 1 Cor. 4:5 Paul reveals that God will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, **“So do not make any hasty or premature judgments before the time when the Lord comes [again], for He will both bring to light the secret things that are [now hidden] in the darkness and disclose and expose the [secret] aims (motives and purposes) of hearts. Then every man will receive his [due] commendation from God.”**
 - a. Why and how? By revealing the counsels of the heart because God

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does not want the believer to continue to abide in darkness.

- b. This is seen in John 12:46, **“I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.”**

{LESSON NUMBER 11} {9/6/2009}

“DARKNESS IN OUR HEART – AREAS OF FUTURE DEFEAT”

- XI. From our study we should recognize that before we do warfare, that the areas we hide in darkness are the very areas of our future defeat.
 - A. How often the battles we face will not cease until we discover and repent for the darkness that is within us.
 1. If we are to be effective in spiritual warfare, we must be discerning of our own hearts before we try to discern a demon in someone else.
 2. Our first course of action must always be, **“Submit yourselves, therefore, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”**
 3. Peter was ignorant of the areas of darkness within him, and his ignorance left him open to attack.
 - a. But the question each of us must ask is, Do you know the areas where you are vulnerable to satanic assault?
 - b. We should realize that the greatest defense we can have against the devil is to maintain an honest heart before God.
 4. When believers comes against the power of the devil, they must do it from a heart in submission to Jesus.
 - a. The believer must be submitted to the Lord, for only the Lord Jesus is their true advocate.
 - b. In order for us to submit to the Lord we must not be “proud” for the Bible says in James 4:6 that, **“God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble”**.
 - c. When we engage in spiritual warfare we certainly don’t want God