

My Thoughts for Sunday, 1 February 2015

"Have You Seen The Light?"

"And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness." Genesis 1:4

God made the light, and separated it from the darkness and stated it was good. We accept the fact that God is light (1John 1:5) and the fact that everything He does is very good. This is the way we can feel of ourselves as we follow in the light of His love. We need to realize that because God made us and put His light in our hearts that we too are seen by Him with the same statement that the light in us is good. We aren't able to see that light within us or see ourselves as 'good' because all we see of ourselves is our past sins and evil deeds. We need to remember that Christ gave His life to cleanse us from our sins through the shedding of His blood on the cross that we might be seen by God as pure and redeemed.

I like to think of it as being in court, on trial, and the judge confirms we are not guilty. Aren't we happy that he can see us this way? Doesn't it make you feel better than just you seeing yourself innocent? This is the same for us through the cleansing blood of our Savior. Even though all we can really see is that past life we are less than proud of, God, through Jesus' sacrifice for you and me, sees us as pure and holy. Yes, even though we can't see the light within us it is much more important that God does see that light and says *"It is good."* It is important to remember this truth, (1 John 1:6) We cannot continue to walk in the ways of our past and show this light. We need to get out of the darkness of our sinful life. Christ did not come to earth to redeem us from our sins only to have us go on sinning. Look what Paul said to the Romans about continuing to sin so we might receive more of God's grace. Romans 6:1-2 (NIV2011) **"What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?"**

Although it is true, the Romans had the apostles to teach them the truths of God's Word as it was being written we have our well trained pastors and teachers to give us insight into the entire Bible. We have the complete Word of God which is the same for us now as it was for the early Christians. God's Word, like God, never changes. We also, through our baptism have the added benefit of the Holy Spirit working in our lives to guide and direct us in gaining insight into the word of God so that we might be partakers in the promise. 1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV2011) *"This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth."*

Even though we may be overcome by daily trials and troubles and that light of His love tends to wane at times, remember that our gracious God is in charge and will preserve that light in us as the Holy Spirit helps us to remain faithful to the Word. This is a wonderful truth and blessing that our Lord told us so very long ago that He is here with us always. Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV2011) *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*