

DENAIR FRIENDS CHURCH

Devotions with Matt

March 28, 2020

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

This is the last in a short series of devotions based on the titles for God used in the song "Way Maker" by Michael W. Smith. The last title he uses in the song is "Light in the Darkness"- that is who Jesus is!

I remember a long time ago some friends of mine and I went skiing and an acquaintance of one of my friends had a house near Tahoe and said we could spend the night there after a long day of skiing. After dinner I was really tired. I was shown a bedroom to sleep in down in the basement. I shut the door, turned off the light and immediately went to sleep. When I woke up, it was pitch black. I couldn't see a thing- not even the hand in front of my face. I slept so hard that I was disoriented and couldn't remember where the bed was in relation to the door, much less the light switch. I had no idea what time it was, but I got out of bed and started groping for the door. I stubbed my toe on the dresser and tripped over the laundry basket. It sounds funny now, but it really was a scary feeling to be lost in the darkness of a room.

As my heart rate began to climb and weird thoughts of being stuck in the room forever entered my head and I wondered if my friends had forgotten about me and headed home already. At that moment the door opened from the outside and light streamed into the room and there was a voice asking me if I was ok. When the door opened it went from pitch black to illuminated in an instant and I could see everything clearly.

That is part of the meaning that Jesus is the Light of the World. He opens our eyes from darkness to light. He allows us to see the world as it is and how it is supposed to be. He sheds His infinite light on our souls and lays them bare. Nothing is hidden from it and we realize, compared to His light, how dark our lives truly are. His light is Truth and it lights up all the lies we have believed and followed. And, if we let it, His light not only exposes the lies, but drives them out. The Apostle John puts it like this, "The light (Jesus) shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." In fact, all darkness flees at His light.

So one meaning of "Light in the Darkness" for Jesus means He exposes darkness in the world and in our souls. The other meaning is that the Light that He offers is the Light of life. It lights our path and our way. This Light is not like a bulb or an open door into a dark room, but rather a light into Kingdom life- life like we were created to live- until darkness (sin) overtook us. Jesus the True Light opens the door to His Kingdom where a life of true joy, hope, peace and love are now available. His light beckons us to a life reconciled back to our Creator- for now and all eternity.

And once we respond to Jesus the Light of the World, He now tells us to let that light shine forth into a dark world. To expose it, yes, but more importantly, to draw people to Him. Jesus says, with His Light in us, "You are the light of the world." Let's let the Light of Christ shine through us in these dark times.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." Isaiah 9:2

In The Light of Christ,

Matt

