

Reflecting The Son

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday November 7th, 2021 PM Lesson

Text: Matthew 5:16; Romans 8:29-30

Intro

- I. Jesus is the _____ of the world (the source of light) - Jn. 1:4-5; 8:12
- II. Saints are to reflect His Light in letting our lights shine!
 - A. Mt. 5:14-16 (Light to be seen); Rom. 8:29-30 (Must conform to image of the Son)
- III. Parallel as visual aid:
 - A. The sun provides light to the earth (source of light)
 - B. The moon provides light at night in varying degrees (reflects the light of the sun)
- IV. The amount of light the moon reflects from the sun is determined by its phase:
 - A. New Moon (Current use, but originally called the Dark Moon): No light reflected
 - B. Crescent Moon, waxing or waning: Very little light reflected, a thin crescent ring
 - C. Half Moon, waxing or waning (1st & 3rd Qtr Moon): Half the moon reflects the sun
 - D. Gibbous Moon, waxing or waning: Nearly all the moon is reflecting the sun
 - E. Full Moon: The whole moon reflects the sun and brightens the night sky!
- V. What phase of the moon are you in as you reflect the Light of the Son (Christ)?

I. Dark Moon

- A. Reflection of the Son: No light! Complete darkness!
 1. Men love the “darkness” of _____ and reject the word of God – Jn. 3:19-21
 2. Mt. 13:19-22: This is the state of one who is an unbeliever or fallen away!
- B. Sin is a state of spiritual _____ (I Thess. 5:5)
- C. Those in _____ need to repent and be baptized to wash away sin! (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
- D. Those who dwell in the darkness of sin, not reflecting the Son, will be eternally punished!

II. Crescent Moon

- A. Reflection of the Son: Minimum, sliver of light
 1. Acts 26:16-18, 22-23: Paul was sent to the Jews and Gentiles to rescue them from _____!
- B. Waxing:
 1. This could be the state of a new convert ever growing in the knowledge of Christ, or a weak saint becoming stronger – I Pet. 2:1-3; II Pet. 3:18
- C. Waning:
 1. Weak saints due to lack of growth – Heb. 5:12-14
 2. Weak saints falling away for various reasons – Mt. 13:20-22: Rocky & Thorny
- D. I Pet. 2:2: Crescent Moon Saints needs to “_____!”
- E. Will your light brighten as you reflect the Son, or will it wink out?

III. Half Moon

- A. Reflection of the Son: Bright, half-light, half-darkness
 1. Col. 1:13-14: Saints are those rescued “from the domain of _____.”
- B. Waxing:
 1. Heb. 6:1-2: Leaving behind the basic (first) principles, this is the saint growing brighter for Christ and more and more reflecting His glory! (Rev. 2:19)
- C. Waning:
 1. Could describe one who compromises with the world: one foot in the world and one foot in Christ – Rev. 2:12-15 (Pergamum), 18-25 (Thyatira)
- D. I Thess. 5:21-22: Half Moon Saints need to “_____” to the good and “_____” from even the appearance of evil!
- E. Are you growing or weakening in your reflection of the Son?

IV. Gibbous Moon

- A. Reflection of the Son: Brighter, nearly complete reflection
 - 1. Jn. 12:46: Faith in Christ (by obedience) leaves the darkness into the _____!
- B. Waxing:
 - 1. Jn. 3:21: By practice (Heb. 5:14) the saint leaves the dark for the light!
 - 2. Rom. 13:12-14: The “armor of _____” is put on to contrast the darkness of night, and the saint more and more reflects the Son!
- C. Waning:
 - 1. A saint burning this brightly starts to lose their light by becoming distracted and unfocused – Mt. 13:22: The Thorny Soil Saint becomes unfruitful!
 - 2. II Thess. 3:13: Perhaps this is one who becomes weary of doing what is right.
- D. Gal. 6:7-9: Gibbous Moon Saints need to “not lose heart in doing _____!”
- E. Will your light ever brighten as you reflect the Son, or do you grow weary and lose heart?

V. Full Moon

- A. Reflection of the Son: Radiant, complete reflection
 - 1. Mt. 5:16; Lk. 11:33-36: Complete light, with no “_____ part in it!”
- B. Complete reflection of the Son – Rom. 8:29-30
 - 1. Eph. 4:14-16: Saints are to “grow up in all aspects into Him!”
 - 2. I Thess. 5:4-8: God has called us to be “Daylight Disciples!”
- C. Jn. 8:12: Jesus makes “daylight disciples” having the “_____ of life.”
 - 1. His disciples are “children of light.” (*Eph. 5:8*)
 - 2. His disciples “walk in the light.” (I Jn. 1:7: contrasted to 1:6)
- D. Eph. 5:7-11: God’s people are not to _____ the deeds of darkness but expose them! (*Jn. 3:19-21: Evil hates the light for fear the dark will be exposed!*)
- E. I Cor. 15:58: Full Moon Saints need to _____ “_____!”
- F. Let your light continue to shine as bright as the Son so that men will “glorify” God!

Conclusion

- I. People in the world live in the _____ of sin, full of despair and hopelessness! (*Eph. 2:11-12*)
 - A. For that reason God’s people are to be lights, beacons of truth that offer hope to the sick and dying (spiritually) – *Mt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15*
- II. God’s people are to be “Daylight Disciples” as they walk in the _____ of truth (*Ps. 119:105*).
- III. Do you stray into the dark or stand in contrast to it?
 - A. Going just a little into the _____ is to walk in _____ and should no longer be a part of a Christian’s life – Eph. 5:3; I Pet. 4:1-3
- IV. As the moon reflects the light of the sun, saints reflect the _____ of the Son of God (*Mt. 5:16*).
- V. People around us (in the dark world) will only see the light of Christ in us as we reflect the Son.
- VI. In reflecting the Son, what phase of discipleship are you in?
- VII. Can others see the light?