

Worthy Women's Words

The Christian's "Light" by Joella Pickup

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, is "the light of the World," so declares John 1:4, 5; John 8:12. He was born into the world to bring it out of the evil darkness of Satan. "Divine Light" translates into seeing clearly the pitfalls Satan throws into our life-path. One word encompasses the idea of Divine Light and that is LOVE. In every respect sin is the antithesis of Light and Love. Sin prefers darkness so that ugly and nefarious deeds will not be easily discovered. John 3:19-21.

Beside coming to enlighten the world as its Savior, Jesus was also the complete and true example of love in that He cared also for the physical well-being of the people. Therefore, He healed sickness, brought life back to the dead, fed the hungry multitudes that followed him, all the while preaching to them the way of Salvation from their sins. He especially was motivated by the poor and down-trodden, because they were often despised by the "upper-class" Jewish sects.

You will notice that He did NOT heal ALL diseases nor feed ALL the hungry, (We have just two examples in Scripture.)

because that was not His primary purpose in coming to the earth as the Savior. Luke 19:10. We remember that Jesus rebuked Satan by saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'" Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4. Followers of Christ must reflect and radiate

reading Solomon's Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, especially the last chapters of each.

There are hundreds of examples in Scripture that show how the people of God radiated God's light to others, by their hospitality to strangers and regard for others. Enoch, who "walked with God," Abraham, Daniel, Peter, John, and Paul are a few examples.

Though God was the One sinned against by the Jews and all the peoples of the world, there was neither mere mortal man nor angel who could atone for the sins of mankind, nor could man save his own soul from the power of the devil. Therefore, God devised a Plan of Redemption which could bring divine Light to the world. He sent His Only Begotten Son to the earth to pay the ransom for all of man's sins by giving up His human life as pay-

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the light of the Gospel by the way they live and by teaching others about Him. Matthew 5:14-16.

The Gospel of Light that Jesus preached is the fulfillment of the wondrous statements by the Old Testament prophets and inspired men. Young Christians would gain much by

concluded on back page

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The Christian's "Light" *concluded*

Jesus, but God snatched Jesus away from the devil and sat Him down at His own right hand on the throne of Heaven. Death is Satan's ultimate curse for sin, both physical and spiritual death. Jesus, Himself, committed no sin while on the earth, but preached God's message of Light to all who would listen and believe.

Jesus, of course, was unafraid of the attempts to arrest Him for blasphemy by the scribes and Pharisees. They would not accept His message because they loved the chief seats in the synagogues and in the ruling

body, the Sanhedrin. He never refrained from accusing them of their sins, even on one account in Luke 11, while dining with them! The Sanhedrin was often afraid to arrest Jesus because the multitudes of common people accepted His Word and loved Him for his healing miracles.

The only time Jesus allowed the leaders of the Jews the upper hand was at His trial when He spoke no parable, but spoke to them plainly as He affirmed His divinity.

Think! Think of all the billions of sins committed by millions of people since the Beginning and on through time

to the present day—sins that Jesus took upon Himself by dying in our stead. He became the very Personification of Sin, which, I believe, made Him cry out, "My God, My God, Why hast Thou forsaken Me?" I can imagine God turning His Face away so as not to look upon the death of Jesus at such a cost. Matthew 27:46.

How can we then refuse or disdain the Plan of Salvation and the sacrifice He made for us? How can we ignore our need to reflect and radiate the Divine Light of the Savior? How do we dare?!!! ❀

Ivory Palaces *by Sue Walker*

When I was a child, I spent Saturdays and Saturday nights with my grandmother. We spent the day working in her beautiful garden while she cut flowers for an arrangement for the church building for Sunday services. She always sang hymns while working in her garden, cooking or doing chores.

One of her favorite songs was Ivory Palaces with the words included herein. I asked her why she especially liked this song. She told me she felt it was so sad that Jesus died, but it was so encouraging to her to know that He will come again to "open wide the door."

My grandmother was married to an abusive alcoholic husband and had a lot of sadness and discouragement in her life. However, she had a firm conviction that things would be better in eternity. She believed that "In garments glorious He will come, to open wide the door; And I shall enter my heavenly home, to dwell forever more."

Perhaps you or a friend or family member live in negative circumstances beyond your control. Singing beautiful hymns such as this one may be a way to elevate you beyond your circumstances and encourage and remind you that a better future awaits us. It is my prayer that we will all be

together when He opens wide the door and we enter our heavenly home. ❀

Ivory Palaces

My Lord has garments so wondrous fine,
And myrrh their texture fills;
Its fragrance reached to this heart of mine
With joy my being thrills.

His life had also its sorrows sore,
For aloes had a part;
And when I think of the cross He bore,
My eyes with teardrops start.

In garments glorious He will come,
To open wide the door;
And I shall enter my heavenly home,
To dwell forever more.

Out of the ivory palaces,
Into a world of woe,
Only His great eternal love,
Made my Savior go.

(1943 by Henry Barraclough from Psalm 45)