**‘Spiritual Darkness’**

*1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.****5And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.***

What is incomprehensible to most people is how horribly dark spiritual darkness is. Many read the account of the fall into sin by Adam and Eve and think it was not a big deal. **IT WAS A BIG DEAL!** Their sin opened a Pandora’s Box of all kinds of trouble and it brought death into God’s good creation. Sin also brought disease, broken relationships, wars between kingdoms, strife between people of different ethnic groups, and so much more into the world.

Nevertheless, we hear many people say that human beings are basically good. Is this true? The answer depends upon what ruler is used to measure the “goodness” of people. Most people will measure themselves against other people. When we do this, we are measuring one broken person against another broken person. The result will not be a true measure of anyone’s goodness. However, when we measure human beings against the ruler of God’s Word, THE ONLY TRUE MEASURE THERE IS, we find that the statement, “people are basically good” is completely false. People are not basically good. People are basically evil.

Let me provide some examples of how God’s Word describes people within its pages.

From Genesis 6:5 we read, ***“Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”*** What is interesting about this verse is the fact that mankind had only been on the face of the earth *(according to the Bible)* 1536 years! The wickedness was so great that God was sorry He had created mankind.[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn1) Now THAT’S an extremely sad statement. It is, however, descriptive of how evil people had become.

Did people improved after God wiped humanity off of the face of the earth in the flood, leaving Noah and his family to repopulate the earth? No, we did NOT improve.

The Apostle Paul put together a descriptive list of Old Testament passages which points to this fact. In Romans 3 beginning at verse 10 he wrote,

10 As it is written *“There is none righteous, no, not one;* 11 *There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.* 12 *They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”****[[2]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn2)*** 13 *“Their* *throat* *is an open* *tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit”;****[[3]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn3)*** *The poison of asps* *is under their lips”;****[[4]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn4)*** 14 *“Whose mouth* *is full of cursing and bitterness.”****[[5]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn5)*** 15 *“Their* *feet* *are swift to shed blood;* 16 *Destruction and misery* *are in their ways;* 17 *And the way of peace they have not known.”****[[6]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn6)*** 18 *“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”****[[7]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn7)***

When we consider how God’s Word describes mankind, we must conclude that we are not good. We are evil. When Adam and Eve sinned, their sin plunged themselves and the world into spiritual darkness. If we could see what spiritual darkness looks like, I would imagine that it looks something like thick black sticky tar. We enjoy the pictures of earth from space. It is blue and beautiful. Spiritually, however, it and everything in it is covered inside and out with the black tar of spiritual darkness!

When the Word of God became man in the person of Jesus, He came bringing spiritual light into our spiritual darkness. Sadly, John wrote ***5And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*** So grossly dark is the darkness of spiritual darkness, that though spiritual light came into the world, the darkness did not, because it could not, comprehend it.

The Greek word for “comprehend” is the word καταλαμβανο (katalambano). It is translated “comprehend.” It could also have been translated: to seize, possess, apprehend, attain, perceive. In other words, spiritual darkness just doesn’t understand spiritual light. **It cannot.** Hopefully we now better understand how tragically horrible the sin of Adam and Eve was, AND why no human being, broken as we are, could do anything to correct the problem. So broken are we, that no one would have wanted to do anything to correct our sin-sick problem.

God had to come into our sin-filled, spiritually dark world, as a man, to be the solution we needed. This was an act of profound love for the world. Unfortunately, though spiritual light did come into the world in the person of Jesus, the darkness did not comprehend it. How, then, was anyone going to escape spiritual darkness? God, Himself, would accomplish this for us and in us. This is what the Bible is all about. It’s why we are *Digging Deeper* into John’s Gospel.

Our God is wonderful!

*Kathleen*

[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref1) Genesis 6:6

[[2]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref2)Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Ecclesiastes 7:20

[[3]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref3) Psalm 5:9

[[4]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref4) Psalm 140:3

[[5]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref5) Psalm 10:7

[[6]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref6) Isaiah 59:7, 8

[[7]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2021/08/%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftnref7) Psalm 36:1