

Certainty... in a world of doubt

The Gospel of Luke

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, February 25/26, 2017 Ray Davis

“The Dark Side” Luke 4:31-44

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”- C.S. Lewis, “Screwtape Letters”

What Is True About The Dark Side?

- Two Kingdoms battling for our hearts: God (Light) & Satan (Darkness). 2Cor 4:4; 11:3, 14; Col 1:13; John 10:10
- We have three enemies: Society, Satan & Sinful Self. Eph 2:1-3; 1John 2:15-17 Pleasures/Positions/Possessions
- We are an integrated body, soul and spirit. 1Thess 5:23
- Satan is not the opposite equal of God but a fallen angel limited to one place at a time, but has a demonic presence working with him. Luke 10:17; Isa14:12-17; Ezek 28:11-19; Rev12:4; Matt 25:41; Dan 10:13-14
- Behind the scenes aggravating the flesh & blood evil (society/sinful nature) is something that is not flesh and blood (Satan). vv31-33; Eph 6:12

How Do We Overcome The Dark Side?

- Repent and believe in the Gospel. Mark 1:15; Matt 5:33
- Don't give the devil a foothold.

Ordinary demonic: Eph 4:26-27 Unforgiveness/Bitterness; 1John 5:18-21 habitual unrepentant sin & idolatry; 2Cor 11:3 Hypocrisy/Complacency; 2Cor 10:3-5 Lies/False Teaching; 1Tim 3:6 Pride; 1Pet 5:8 Fear; 1Cor 7:5 Sexual sin; Eph 5:8-21 Folly & drunkenness.

Extraordinary Demonic: Acts 5:16 Torment; Acts 8:4-8 Physical injury; 2Thess 2:9-10 False Miracles; Rev12:10 Accusation/Guilt & shame; John 8:44 Murder/Suicide; 1John 4:1-6 False teachers/teaching & religions.

- Remember who Jesus is and what He came to do. vv33-36, 41; Luke 4:18-21; 1John 3:8
- Remember you are in Christ and Christ is in you. 2Cor 5:17, 21; Gal 2:20; 1John 4:4; Isa 54:17; Eph 6:10-18
- Keep yourself spiritually strong through spiritual disciplines and boundaries. Vv 42-44; H.A.L.T.
- Passionately & aggressively advance the Kingdom of God by proclamation (vv31, 43-44) & demonstration (vv38-41) of the Gospel. Matt 6:10; 16:13-19; 28:18-20

Growing Notes

- 1) Read the C.S. Lewis quote at the beginning of the sermon notes. What are your thoughts? What would these extremes look like? Why would Satan want us to go to one of these two extremes? How have you seen these extremes in our culture?
- 2) Read Luke 4:31-44. What stands out to you? How did the people respond to Jesus' teaching (v32)? How did the demon possessed man respond to Jesus (vv33-34)? What was Jesus' response to this man (v35)? What does this tell us about Jesus (vv36-37)? Jesus not only proclaimed the Gospel (vv 31, 43-44) but also demonstrated it (vv 38-41). Explain. Why do you think Jesus practiced solitude and good boundaries (vv 42-44)?
- 3) Review the points and verses under “What Is True about the Dark Side?” What was most beneficial? How can these truths' help you to have a more balanced perspective about the dark side? What footholds do you need to be more aware of in your life?
- 4) Review the points and verses under “How Do We Overcome the Dark Side?” What was most beneficial? What is God speaking to you? What are some next steps you can take to be stronger in the Lord and in His mighty power (Eph 6:10)? Pray