



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 10:1-13:16
- Amos 5:18-21
- II Corinthians 4:1-18
- I Timothy 4:1-2
- Psalms 85

Title:

DARKNESS YOU CAN FEEL

- Counterfeit Lights
- The Seared Conscience
- Light and Darkness
- Mercy Encounters Truth
- Righteousness Kisses Peace

*Each week the Scriptures challenge us with something new. No other book can affect us like that; literally, you can read the same old words and be impacted in a brand new way. The Word is living and active and sharper than a two edged sword! This week as I read through the final three plagues before the exodus, these words gripped me; **“Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt.”** It was a blackness so black that the people could feel its weight on their skin and they could see absolutely nothing. It was a complete absence of light.*

It stirred something as I contemplated the appropriate title for such a teaching: Unimaginable Darkness, Total Blackness, and

Darkness Within. Finally, I simply settled on these terrifying words: "Darkness You Can Feel". There was no light in Egypt. Can you imagine such total darkness that you could literally feel it? That was Egypt's final step before complete devastation. But there was light over the children of Israel in Goshen and their deliverance was near. Today, I sense that a total darkness is near in all the "Egypt" in the world. And once again God's people will see the deliverance of the Lord.

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

"But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like **darkness [total darkness, darkest gloom, deep darkness]**; they do not know what makes them stumble." Proverbs 4:18-19 NKJV

"Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, **that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt.**" So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and **there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They did not see one another;** nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. **But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.**" Exodus 10:21-23 NKJV

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; **who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;** who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” Isaiah 5:20 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“**Therefore we do not lose heart.** Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, **while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.** For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” II Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV

“**Mercy and truth** have met together; **righteousness and peace** have kissed. **Truth** shall spring out of the earth, and **righteousness** shall look down from heaven.” Psalms 85:10-11 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The portion begins by concluding the narrative of the ten plagues, the tenth of which is the slaying of the firstborn. To avoid the plague, the Israelites are given the instructions for the Passover sacrifice and the laws of the Feast of Unleavened

Bread. Pharaoh finally consents to let Israel go, and they leave, taking with them the riches of Egypt. [See the chart of facts about all 10 Plagues on page 23 in [The Purpose of Power](#). You can see last year's teaching on this portion here: [And Then the End...](#)]

2. **(8) Locusts**—Moses to Pharaoh; 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? **Let My people go, that they may serve Me.** Locusts shall eat the residue of what is left, which remains after the fiery hail and they will fill all Egyptian homes.
3. Pharaoh's servants beg him to relent before Egypt is completely destroyed? Moses informs Pharaoh that he will take with him his young and old, sons and daughters, and flocks and herds.
4. Pharaoh again says, "go" but then warns Moses. "The Lord had better be with you when I let you and your little ones go! Beware, for evil is ahead of you." It seems that Pharaoh then tells Moses to go only with his men. Pharaoh believes Moses has evil intent and has no plans to "return to Egypt", so he is hedging.
5. Yahweh then sends the locusts and they eat every herb of the land and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left. So there remained nothing green on the trees or on the plants of the field throughout all the land of Egypt.

6. Pharaoh admits he has sinned against Yahweh and against Moses. He asks for both the forgiveness of Moses and Yahweh. "Please forgive my sin only this once, and entreat the Lord your God, that He may take away from me this death only."
7. Pharaoh still does not let the children of Israel go. This speaks to Pharaoh's seared conscience. **He is not capable of authentic repentance.**
8. **(9) Darkness**—This plague begins with no further warning to Pharaoh. Thick darkness covered the land of Egypt for three days. The people could not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. The blackness was so black that the people could literally feel it! But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.
9. Again Pharaoh says "go" and this time you can take your little ones. Moses insists that the livestock go as well so they may sacrifice to Yahweh. And we are taking them all, as we have no idea what Yahweh will require. Obviously Moses has zero intention to return to Egypt and Pharaoh is finding reasons for them to return each time he says, "go." In the end, the even the utter darkness will not inspired Pharaoh to let them go. This darkness in the sign of Pharaoh's (Egypt's) unredeemable condition.

10. Pharaoh, then, seals his death sentence—“Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face **you shall die!**” So Moses said, “You have spoken well. I will never see your face again.”
11. **Death of the Firstborn Announced:** one more plague is coming and afterward Pharaoh will let them go. And when he lets them go, he will surely drive them out altogether. But, before they leave, they will pillage the Egyptians.
12. By this time, Moses was considered a very great man in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.
13. Here is what will happen:
- (a) About midnight Yahweh will go out into the midst of Egypt
 - (b) All the firstborns in the land of Egypt shall die (Pharaoh’s, Servant’s, Animal’s, etc.)
 - (c) There will be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt like never before or will ever be again
14. **Moses warns Pharaoh one final time:** You will know that Yahweh differentiates between the Egyptians and Israel. And your servants will bow down to me, and say ‘Get out!’ But, Pharaoh did not let the children of Israel go.
15. The Passover Instituted
- (a) The month shall be the first month of the year to you

- (b) On the tenth of this month every father shall take for himself a lamb
- (c) If the household is too small for a whole lamb, let him and his neighbor do it together
- (d) Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year
[Note: just like Y'shua who was without blemish, and when you study the details of His public ministry, it really only spans one year, from Passover to Passover. This is not the place to exhaust this topic, however as a priest (according to the order of Melchizedek—Hebrews 5:6) He would enter ministry in His 30th year of life, so after He turns 29, and He would be sacrificed as a spotless one-year old lamb.]
- (e) Keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month
- (f) Kill it at twilight.
- (g) Take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. [Note: yes Yahweh is separating His people, but they must also participate in the process. They must do something!]
- (h) Eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs
- (i) Let none of it remain until morning, burn what you cannot eat.

(j) Eat it with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is Yahweh's Passover.

16. Yahweh will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborns in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; **and against all the gods of Egypt He will execute judgment.**

17. The blood shall be a sign on the houses. When Yahweh sees the blood, He will **pass over** that house; and the plague shall not destroy them as He strikes the land of Egypt.

18. Passover shall be a memorial; a feast to the Yahweh throughout all generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance.

(a) Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses.

(b) On the first day there shall be a holy convocation, and on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on them (treat it like a Sabbath).

(c) You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread.

(d) Remind your children every year that this is the day Yahweh passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and freed His people.

19. **(10) Death of the Firstborn**—Yahweh struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock; there was a great cry in Egypt, **for there was not a house where there was not one dead.**

20. **The Exodus**— The Egyptians urge Israel to go quickly fearing they will all die. This is why the Passover was eaten with belts and sandals on, and staff in hand. And it is also why they departed in haste before the dough was leavened.

21. Yahweh gave them favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they gave them all they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

22. A **mixed multitude** left with them (non-Israelites, presumably a mix of Egyptians and other slave nations formally in captivity in Egypt. Might we presume these people were convinced by the awesome display of power, the plagues, that Egypt is a losing proposition?). **This is an important point to remember when considering Biblical Law.** Yahweh says in Exodus 12:49 that there is **one law** for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you. So, even those not of the blood line of Israel

are expected to obey the Laws of Yahweh as if they are also Israelites.

23. We then see that it is the exact day, 430 years after “something” that Israel leaves Egypt, a solemn day to remember forever.

Look carefully at the words!

24. **“Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.** And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years—**on that very same day**—it came to pass that all the armies of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:40-41)

25. Yes, the entire Journey for these people WHO NOW LIVED IN EGYPT was 430 years. But it is NOT SAYING they were in Egypt for 430 years (which is a mathematical impossibility). What does span an exact 430 years can be measured from the promise to Abraham and his call to **go out** of Haran (the first Hebrew) to the day of the Exodus, the promise to Israel and the call to **go out** of Egypt. See this [time chart](#) for clarity. It is only during the first 80 years of Moses life that you see Israel as slaves in Egypt (up until then we can presume they are invited guests starting from the time of Joseph).

(a) *And it is quite apparent that the Apostle Paul understood this well, as he too measures the 430 years from Abraham to the Exodus: “Now to **Abraham and his Seed were the promises***

made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ. **And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later,** cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.”

Galatians 3:16-17 NKJV (The Law was given on Mt. Sinai in the 3rd Month of the Year, only 50 days after the Passover and the Exodus, which was exactly to the day, 430 years after the promise to Abraham.)

26. Passover Regulations:

- (a) No foreigner shall eat it.
- (b) Servant's bought for money, who are circumcised may eat it.
- (c) A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat it
- (d) No flesh of the lamb may be carried outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones (Consider how none of Y'shua's bones were broken, see John 19:31-37, Num. 9:12, Ps. 34:20).
- (e) “Therefore, because it was the **Preparation Day**, that the bodies should not remain on the cross **on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day)**, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. **But when they came**

to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, **“Not one of His bones shall be broken.”** And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”” John 19:31-37 NKJV

- (f) **Note:** the phrase **“for that Sabbath was a high day”** refers to a Sabbath associated with a commanded feast, NOT the weekly Sabbath.
- (g) When a stranger dwells with you and wants to keep the Passover, all males must be circumcised
- (h) No uncircumcised person shall eat it

27. One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you—Exodus 12:49

28. The firstborn of man and beast must be set-part for Yahweh.

29. The Feast of Unleavened Bread:

- (a) No leavened bread shall be eaten
- (b) Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread
- (c) On the seventh day there shall be a feast to Yahweh

- (d) Tell your children 'This is done because of what Yahweh did for us when we came up from Egypt.'
- (e) It shall be as a sign and a memorial that Yahweh's law may be in your mouth forever.
- (f) Therefore keep this ordinance forever.

30. The Law of the Firstborn:

- (a) Set apart every male firstborn that comes from an animal
- (b) Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb
- (c) If you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck
- (d) All the firstborns of man you shall redeem
- (e) When your children ask you why, tell them about Pharaoh's stubbornness and how Yahweh killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt
- (f) It shall be as a sign on your hand and as frontlets between your eyes, for by strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt.

COUNTERFEIT LIGHTS

1. **"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."** *Martin Luther King, Jr., Loving Your Enemies Sermon, December 25, 1957*

A. **First we must expose the deception!** *“Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. “Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.” Matthew 10:26-27 NKJV*

(1) Imposters Exposed—Angels of Light

(a) “But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity **to be regarded just as we are** in the things of which they boast. For such are **false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.** And no wonder! **For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.** Therefore it is no great thing **if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness,** whose end will be according to their works.” II Corinthians 11:12-15 NKJV

1. **A house divided:** “But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: **“Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.** If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?” Matthew 12:25-26 NKJV

2. **Hypocrisy: “He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.** He who loves his brother **abides in the light**, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But he who hates his brother **is in darkness** and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.” 1 John 2:9-11 NKJV
3. **If the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness?** ““The lamp of the body is the eye. **If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.** But **if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness.** If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” Matthew 6:22-23 NKJV
4. **False Prophets:** ““Beware of **false prophets**, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. **You will know them by their fruits.** Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?” (Matthew 7:15-16 NKJV) “Then many **false prophets will rise up and deceive many.** And because **lawlessness will abound**, the love of many will grow cold.” Matthew 24:11-12 NKJV

(2) Apostates—wandering stars

- (a) **“Woe to them!** For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. These are spots in your love feasts, **while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves.** They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; **wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.”** Jude 1:11-13 NKJV
- (3) Isn't it darkness and not light?
- (a) **“Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!** For what good is the day of the LORD to you? **It will be darkness, and not light.** It will be as though a man fled from a lion, And a bear met him! Or as though he went into the house, Leaned his hand on the wall, And a serpent bit him! Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? Is it not very dark, with no brightness in it? “I hate, I despise your feast days, And I do not savor your sacred assemblies.” Amos 5:18-21 NKJV
- (4) The evil—good swap!
- (a) **“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;** Who put

bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight! Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, Woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink, Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away justice from the righteous man! Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, And the flame consumes the chaff, So their root will be as rottenness, And their blossom will ascend like dust; Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. **Therefore the anger of the LORD is aroused against His people; He has stretched out His hand against them And stricken them,** And the hills trembled. **Their carcasses were as refuse in the midst of the streets. For all this His anger is not turned away,** But His hand is stretched out still.” Isaiah 5:20-25 NKJV

- (5) The ungodly will not be spared—the godly will be delivered
- (a) **“For if God did not spare the angels who sinned,** but cast them down to hell and **delivered them into chains of darkness,** to be reserved for judgment; and **did not spare the ancient world,** but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, **bringing in the**

flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, **making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;** and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)— **then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly** out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.” II Peter 2:4-11 NKJV

B. Darkness is not a mistake

(1) The Lord Creates Darkness

- (a) “I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD,

and there is no other; **I form the light and create darkness**, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things. ' "Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have created it." Isaiah 45:5-8 NKJV

(2) The Lord Creates the Weapon

- (a) "All your children shall be taught by the LORD, And great shall be the peace of your children. In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you. Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake. **"Behold, I have created the blacksmith Who blows the coals in the fire, Who brings forth an instrument for his work; And I have created the spoiler to destroy. No weapon formed against you shall prosper,** And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. **This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,** And their righteousness is from Me," Says the LORD." Isaiah 54:13-17 NKJV

- (3) Yahweh has veiled the gospel to those who are perishing
- (a) “But even if our gospel is veiled, **it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded**, who do not believe, **lest the light of the gospel** of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should **shine on them**. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake. **For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness**, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” II Corinthians 4:3-6 NKJV

C. However, in Him there is no darkness, and therefore when we have true fellowship with Him...

- (1) God is light and in Him is no darkness at all
- (a) “This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that **God is light and in Him is no darkness at all**. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and **walk in darkness, we lie** and do not practice the truth. **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light**, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” I John 1:5-7 NKJV

(2) You are sons of light and sons of the day, not sons of the night nor of darkness.

(a) “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. **But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.** Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.”

I Thessalonians 5:1-11 NKJV

(3) You were once darkness, but now you are light—Expose the darkness!

(a) **“For you were once darkness, but now you are light** in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And **have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.** For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things **that are exposed are made manifest by the light,** for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.”” Ephesians 5:8-14 NKJV

Summary: COUNTERFEIT LIGHTS

1. Not all lights are lights, some are darkness.
2. We must expose the imposters!
3. The fakes call darkness light and light darkness; good evil and evil good! And they are lawless!
4. God will not spare them.
5. And the fact that this darkness exists is not a mistake, and yet in Him and therefore by extension, us, there is NO DARKNESS!
6. Now—your job as the light is to expose the darkness!

THE SEARED CONSCIENCE

2. The Nail in the Coffin

A. The Seared Conscience

(1) Evil thoughts and intents

(a) “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.” Genesis 6:5
NKJV

(2) The defiled conscience

(a) “To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and **conscience are defiled.**” Titus 1:15 NKJV

(3) Blindness of the heart

(a) “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the **futility of their mind**, having their **understanding darkened**, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the **blindness of their heart**; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.” Ephesians 4:17-19 NKJV

(4) The seared conscience

- (a) “Now the Spirit expressly says that **in latter times** some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, **having their own conscience seared** with a hot iron,” I Timothy 4:1-2 NKJV
- (5) How did this play out in the life of Pharaoh? Before the first plague~
- (a) “And **Pharaoh’s heart grew hard**, and he did not heed them, as the LORD had said.” Exodus 7:13 NKJV
- (6) Pharaoh’s Pride
- (a) “So Moses and Aaron came in to Pharaoh and said to him, “Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews: ‘**How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me?** Let My people go, that they may serve Me.” Exodus 10:3 NKJV
- (b) **The King Admits he has sinned after the Locusts—but still can’t repent:** “Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and said, “**I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you. Now therefore, please forgive my sin only this once, and entreat the LORD your God**, that He may take away from me this death only.” So he went out from Pharaoh and entreated the LORD.” Exodus 10:16-18 NKJV

B. The Prophetic Moment

- (1) Killed by his own words! Because of the Plague of Darkness
 - (a) “But the LORD **hardened Pharaoh’s heart**, and he would not let them go. Then Pharaoh said to him, “Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! **For in the day you see my face you shall die!**” So Moses said, “You have spoken well. I will never see your face again.”” Exodus 10:27-29 NKJV
- (2) Prophetic Pattern: the wicked will die by their own schemes!
 - (a) “So **they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared** for Mordecai. Then the king’s wrath subsided.” Esther 7:10 NKJV
 - (b) “**The wicked have drawn the sword** And have bent their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. **Their sword shall enter their own heart**, And their bows shall be broken.” Psalms 37:14-15 NKJV
- (3) Death of the firstborn announced
 - (a) “Then Moses said, “Thus says the LORD: ‘About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; **and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die**, from the

firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals. **Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before,** nor shall be like it again. But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.” Exodus 11:4-7 NKJV

- (b) **PRIDE CONTINUES: Even after the threat of the death of the firstborn, the seared conscience cannot change. Pharaoh literally has LOST THE CAPACITY to truly repent:** “But the LORD said to Moses, “**Pharaoh will not heed you,** so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”” Exodus 11:9 NKJV

(4) Death of the firstborn Fulfilled

- (a) “And it came to pass at midnight **that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt,** from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians; **and there was a great**

cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead.” Exodus 12:29-30 NKJV

Summary: THE SEARED CONSCIENCE

1. The seared conscience is the final nail in the coffin—no turning back. The moment when you literally LOSE THE CAPACITY to truly repent!
2. It is a defiled conscience, a permanently blind heart.
3. It simply will not humble itself even when it is sure it is wrong!
4. All that it declares will be used against itself.

LIGHT AND DARKNESS

3. What immediately preceded this horrific plague?

A. Unimaginable Darkness

(1) So dark you could feel it... But some had light!

- (a) “Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, **that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness [so dark, so awful] which may even be felt.**” So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and **there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They did not see one another;** nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. **But all the**

children of Israel had light in their dwellings.” Exodus 10:21-23 NKJV

1. **Note:** one of the primary gods of Egypt was Ra, the sun-god. The darkness revealed his impotence and prevented daily rituals of pagan worship!

B. The journey between darkness and light

(1) Backed up, hard pressed, hemmed in! (*What we know is coming in the next portion is appropriate to mention here!*)

(a) **Backed up against the sea:** “For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, ‘They are **bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.**’” Exodus 14:3 NKJV

(b) **The miracle protection is that in which we see the prophetic delineation between light and darkness:** “So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus **it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other,** so that the one did not come near the other all that night.” Exodus 14:20 NKJV

(2) Picture Israel’s situation as they were trapped against the sea and then read Paul’s words.

(a) “Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, **we do not lose heart.** But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in

craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. **But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing [Pharaoh, Egypt], whose minds the god of this age has blinded [the seared conscience]**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. **For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness [cloud and darkness on one side, and light by night to the other—Exodus 14:20]**, who has shone in our hearts **to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**" II Corinthians 4:1-6 NKJV

(3) Hard Pressed on Every Side

- (a) "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels **[potential miracles for mere humans]**, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us **[the parting of an ocean]**. **We are hard-pressed on every side [backed up against the sea]**, yet **[it will all be okay!]** not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but

not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. **For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh [we will live and walk through the parted waters!]**. So then death is working in us, but life in you." II Corinthians 4:7-12 NKJV

(4) The same spirit of faith...if we had the same faith of David, when we have our own Red Sea moments, we would believe and therefore speak!

(a) **"And since we have the same spirit of faith,** according to what is written, ***"I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,** knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus **[we will be delivered from death just like Israel was delivered]**, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. II Corinthians 4:13-15 NKJV

1. ***"For You have delivered my soul from death,** My eyes from tears, And my feet from falling. I will walk before the LORD In the land of the living. **I believed,**

therefore I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted."" Psalms
116:8-10 NKJV

(5) Get your eyes off the seen (temporary) and place your eyes
on the spiritual (permanent)!

(a) **"Therefore we do not lose heart.** Even though our
outward man is perishing [**when you see the Egyptian
chariots approaching**], yet the inward man is being
renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but
for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding
and eternal weight of glory, **while we do not look at the
things which are seen [the most powerful military in
the world bearing down on us]**, but at the things which
are not seen [**the fire that will come down and separate
light from darkness**]. For the things which are seen are
temporary [**Egypt is about to be destroyed**], but the
things which are not seen are eternal [***we are about to
be delivered**]." II Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV

1. ***"And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid.
Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD,** which
He will accomplish for you today. **For the Egyptians
whom you see today, you shall see again no more
forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall
hold your peace."**" Exodus 14:13-14 NKJV

C. Turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God!

(1) Paul's testimony to the ones who will see the light! Paul can relate II Corinthians 4 to the deliverance of Israel in the Exodus by the separation of darkness from light, ONLY because he also went from darkness to light and he is now called **"to turn others from darkness to light."**

(a) "And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' So I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand on your feet; for **I have appeared to you for this purpose**, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom **I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God**, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'" Acts 26:14-18 NKJV

D. What fellowship has Light with Darkness

(1) Unequally yoked

- (a) “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? **And what communion has light with darkness?** And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” **Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate [It is time for another Exodus], says the Lord.** Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.”” II Corinthians 6:14-18 NKJV

E. Arise, shine!

(1) Be on the light side; notice the Exodus connection...

- (a) “**Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.** For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light,

And kings to the brightness of your rising. “Lift up your eyes all around, and see: **They all gather together, they come to you;** Your sons shall come from afar, And your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, **The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.**”
Isaiah 60:1-5 NKJV

- (2) Wealth transfer before the Exodus... *“The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.”*
- (a) **Favor:** “Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, **articles of silver and articles of gold.**” **And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians.** Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.” Exodus 11:2-3 NKJV
- (b) **Favor fulfilled:** “Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing. **And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them**

what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians." Exodus 12:35-36 NKJV

F. The Light

(1) He is the Light

- (a) "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light of the world.** He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'" John 8:12 NKJV
- (b) "In Him was life, and the life was **the light of men.** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." John 1:4-5 NKJV
- (c) ""He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, **that the light has come into the world,** and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3:18-19 NKJV
- (d) "Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, **I am the light of the world.**"" John 9:3-5 NKJV

- (e) “Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. **While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.**” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.” John 12:35-36 NKJV
- (f) “The disciples said to Him, “Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. **But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.**”” John 11:8-10 NKJV
- (g) “Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. **I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.** And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him— the word that I have spoken

will judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”” John 12:44-50 NKJV

(2) You are the Light

- (a) “”**You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **Let your light so shine** before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16 NKJV
- (b) “For you were once darkness, **but now you are light** in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),” Ephesians 5:8-9 NKJV

(3) The Word is the Light

- (a) “Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way. **Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.** I have sworn and confirmed That I will keep Your righteous judgments.” Psalms 119:104-106 NKJV

G. Darkness

(1) The Wicked

(a) “The way of the wicked is like **darkness**; They do not know what makes them stumble.” Proverbs 4:19 NKJV

(2) Delivered from the power of darkness

(a) “He has delivered us from the power of **darkness** and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.” Colossians 1:13-14 NKJV

(3) Rulers of the darkness

(a) “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

H. Light and Darkness

(1) Justice is a bright day; wickedness is darkness

(a) “But the path of the just is **like the shining sun**, That **shines ever brighter** unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like **darkness [total darkness, darkest gloom, deep darkness]** ; They do not know what makes them stumble.” Proverbs 4:18-19 NKJV

(2) Light excels darkness

- (a) “Then I saw that wisdom excels folly As **light excels darkness**. The wise man’s eyes are in his head, But the fool walks in darkness. Yet I myself perceived That the same event happens to them all.” Ecclesiastes 2:13-14 NKJV

Summary: LIGHT AND DARKNESS

1. The darkness that precedes the seared conscience is total unimaginable blackness void of all light!
2. The journey to darkness has a clear division between light and darkness.
3. The ultimate moment is usually one with no apparent options, but to trust in God or rebel against Him.
4. You must take your eyes off of what you can see and put them on what you cannot see!
5. Light has no fellowship with darkness.
6. Y’shua is the light; you are the light!
7. The ministry we have received and the ministry we have been given to do is to bring light to darkness.

MERCY ENCOUNTERS TRUTH; RIGHTEOUSNESS KISSES PEACE

4. Yahweh is good and our land will yield its increase!

A. What is your role?

- (1) Mercy and Truth, Righteousness and Peace
 - (a) “**Mercy** and **truth** have **met together**; **righteousness** and **peace** have **kissed**. Truth shall **spring out** of the earth, And righteousness shall **look down** from heaven.”
Psalms 85:10-11 NKJV
- (2) Mercy
 - (a) Loving devotion, goodness, kindness, faithfulness
- (3) Truth
 - (a) Firmness, reliability, stability, continuance, truth as spoken of testimony and judgment, of divine instruction, truth as a body of ethical or religious knowledge, true doctrine
- (4) Met Together
 - (a) Join together, encounter
- (5) Righteousness
 - (a) Justice, rightness, righteousness, what is right or just or normal, a seat of just government, deliverance, victory, prosperity
- (6) Peace
 - (a) Completeness, soundness, welfare, safety, health, quiet, tranquillity, contentment
- (7) Kissed

- (a) To put together, to touch gently, to handle, be equipped with
- (8) Spring Out
 - (a) Sprouts, spring up, grow up, to grow abundantly or thickly, to cause to grow
- (9) Look Down
 - (a) To overlook, overhang, look out and down, to lean over and look), look down upon

B. All of Psalm 85

- (1) Our land will yield its increase!
 - (a) “**LORD, You have been favorable to Your land;** You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger. Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease. Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations? Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You? Show us Your mercy, LORD, And grant us Your salvation. I will hear what God the LORD will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly. Surely His salvation is near

to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land. **Mercy** and **truth** have met together; **Righteousness** and **peace** have kissed. Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven. Yes, the LORD will give what is good; **And our land will yield its increase.**" Psalms 85:1-12 NKJV

(2) And our land will yield its increase...if what?

(a) **A testimony of light!** "Mercy, [loving devotion, goodness, kindness, faithfulness] and truth, [reliability, stability, continuance, truth as spoken of testimony and judgment, of divine instruction] have **met together and had an encounter**; righteousness, [justice, rightness, righteousness, what is right or just or normal, a seat of just government, deliverance, victory, prosperity] and peace, [completeness, soundness, welfare, safety, health, quiet, tranquillity, contentment] have **kissed, touched gently**. Truth shall **spring out, grow abundantly or thickly out** of the earth, And righteousness shall **look down, overlook** from heaven." Psalms 85:10-11 NKJV

Summary: MERCY AND TRUTH; RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE

1. The role of Mercy, Truth, Righteousness, and Peace is to bring one thing...a land that will yield its increase!

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to you to be in such complete darkness that you could literally feel it?

A. Why is it significant that complete darkness is only possible in the absence of light?

2. What is the prophetic significance that the plague of darkness was the final plague before Egypt's destruction?

A. How is this darkness related to the ongoing hardness in Pharaoh's heart?

B. How might it be related to a seared conscience?

3. After Israel made its way into the Wilderness, it soon found itself backed up against the sea with no way to escape?

A. What did Yahweh do that gave Israel time to escape through the parted sea?

B. How does light and darkness play out in this miracle provision?

4. Relate the light and darkness of the ninth plague with:

A. II Corinthians 4:6 (God commanded light to shine out of darkness.)

B. II Corinthians 4:7-12 (We are hard-pressed on every side.)

5. The Bible is replete with Scriptures comparing and contrasting light and darkness. Pick three from this study:

- A. Discuss them in relation to your growth as a disciple.
- B. Relate them to current events in the world and the role of the church.

6. Satan masquerades as an angel of light. Relate this to:

- A. *“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”* (Isaiah 5:20)
- B. *“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth).”* (Ephesians 5:8-9)