

<sup>[46]</sup> And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles <sup>(people of the nation's)</sup>. <sup>[47]</sup> For thus the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU SHOULD BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"<sup>1</sup> <sup>[48]</sup> And when the Gentiles <sup>(people of the nation's)</sup> heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. <sup>[49]</sup> And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region.

[Acts 13:46-49]

Did you hear what Paul and Barnabas said to these Jews and people of the nations who were listening? In Acts 13:46-47 to the Jews they said,

*"It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the people of the nations. For thus the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A **LIGHT** FOR THE NATIONS, THAT YOU SHOULD BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"*

Then in Acts 13:48,

*And when the people of the nation's heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*

We then learn in Acts 13:49 that the end result of these things was that,

*... the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region.*

Listen closely to what Paul said to the Ephesians in Ephesians 5:8-10. Hear he teaches us that, both Jews and peoples of the nations,

<sup>[8]</sup> ... were **FORMERLY DARKNESS, BUT** now you **ARE LIGHT IN the LORD; WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT,** <sup>[9]</sup> **FOR** the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth, <sup>[10]</sup> **TRYING TO LEARN WHAT IS PLEASING TO the LORD.**

In Philippians 2:12-16, Paul instructs, all when the Holy Spirit moved him to say,

<sup>[12]</sup> So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, **BUT** now much more in my absence, **WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION** with fear and trembling; <sup>[13]</sup> **FOR** it is God Who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. <sup>[14]</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing; <sup>[15]</sup> that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, **AMONG WHOM YOU APPEAR AS LIGHTS IN the WORLD,** <sup>[16]</sup> **HOLDING FAST the WORD OF LIFE....**

The Holy Spirit then encourages us through Paul when he was moved to say in 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6,

<sup>[4]</sup> **BUT** you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief; <sup>[5]</sup> **FOR** you are all **SONS OF LIGHT** and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; <sup>[6]</sup> so then let us not sleep as others do **BUT LET US BE ALERT and SOBER.**

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<sup>1</sup> Sited from Isaiah 49:6.

Now listen to the lesson Jesus teaches us in the parable He tells in Luke 8:16-18, where He said, <sup>[16]</sup> “Now **NO ONE AFTER LIGHTING A LAMP COVERS IT OVER WITH A CONTAINER** or **PUTS IT UNDER A BED**; **BUT** they put it on a lampstand, in order that those who come in **MAY SEE THE LIGHT**. <sup>[17]</sup> **FOR** nothing is **HIDDEN** that **WILL NOT BECOME EVIDENT**, or **SECRET** that **WILL NOT COME TO LIGHT**. <sup>[18]</sup> Therefore, **TAKE CARE HOW YOU LISTEN**; **FOR** whoever has, to them will more be given; and whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken away from them.”

Pause with me here and consider that the passage above and all those that preceded it, have a purpose! The purpose of the previous passages is to teach that we are to be **SPIRITUAL LIGHT!** The purpose of Luke 8:16-18 is to teach us that since we are to be **SPIRITUAL LIGHT** the Lord has **PLACED** us as **SPIRITUAL LIGHTS** not to cover our **LIGHT** so it cannot be **SEEN**. Rather we are to let our **LIGHT SHINE BRIGHTLY** where we have been **PLACED** that all around can **SEE** our **LIGHT** and come to Jesus and be **SAVED!**

Lord willing, I hope you will join me here again tomorrow, when we will consider that Christ is the **LIGHT** of the World!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Will you please now join me in prayer?

Blessed Father God, I give You thanksgiving Today for teaching us that we are to be Spiritual Lights. This You have asked of us that others might see Jesus the True Light in us and come to Him and be saved! Thank You for instructing us that we are not to hide our spiritual light, but that we should let it brightly shine so others can clearly see Jesus' light in us. This I pray giving You thanksgiving in the Name of Christ. Amen!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** Who promises in His Word to never leave you nor forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

*BECAUSE HE WANTS ME TO LET MY LIGHT SHINE,  
SO THAT OTHERS MAY SEE CHRIST LIGHT IN ME,  
AND COME TO HIM AND BE SAVED! -- tom*