

Abundant Spiritual Treasures



***But if we walk in the light,
as he is in the light, we have
fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son
cleanses us from all sin
(I John 1:7).***

The darkness seemed to swallow me. Nausea crept into my very being as not even a sliver of light could be seen. Afraid that I might pass out from panic, I turned on my phone and held it against my chest. Although told not to turn on any light, I knew I had to or risk passing out. Standing in the bosom of a solitary confinement cell at the former Missouri State Prison in Jefferson City, I wondered how those who had been assigned there could remain sane. Yet some prisoners had been placed there for not only a few seconds but for months and even years.

Standing in the darkness of that cold room without even a hint of light served as a mental picture of the darkness thousands of people feel every day. Wandering aimlessly, floundering to find their spiritual identity, and wanting to believe that light can be found within themselves, they seek and search for a way to remove the light through addictions, false religions, money, fame, and achievements. Yet all leave them in darkness, a darkness that can only be removed by the true Light, Jesus Christ.

The Apostle John shared in his gospel the treasured light, Jesus Christ, who was sent as a light to remove the darkness of sin. *In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it* (John 1:4-5).

Jesus Himself stated, *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life”* (John 8:12) and *“I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness”* (John 12:46).

But the light doesn’t end there, for the very words of Jesus reveal that we also are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14-16). Because He, the true Light, resides in us, we light up the room when we enter it. It doesn’t matter if we may feel cracked and broken, worn out, or frustrated as a result of our daily jobs and schedules. The treasure of His Light shines through those cracks as we reveal the Father’s glory through Christ.

Prayer: Dear sweet Jesus, enable me by Your grace to be a vessel through which Your amazing light can shine to others. Although I may feel cracked at times, may I know that Your light shines the brightest when my cracks are the greatest. Amen.