

You are the Light
Matthew 5:14-16



Light Has Come into the World

• **John 3:19-21** - And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

The Attraction of Darkness

- **Romans 1:28-32** - And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, **they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.**





Devil's Job is to Deceive You

- **2 Corinthians 4:4** - In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- **2 Corinthians 11:14-15** - And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵ So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

Eyes Window of Your Soul

- **Luke 11:34-35** - Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. 35 Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. 36 If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light.”

The Trap

- **Matthew 13:47-50** - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

3 Steps to Overcome Darkness

1. You are the Light – Shine
2. Move into the Darkness – Drive it Out
3. No Fear

You are the Light - Shine

- **Matthew 5:14** - “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Move into the Darkness – Drive it Out

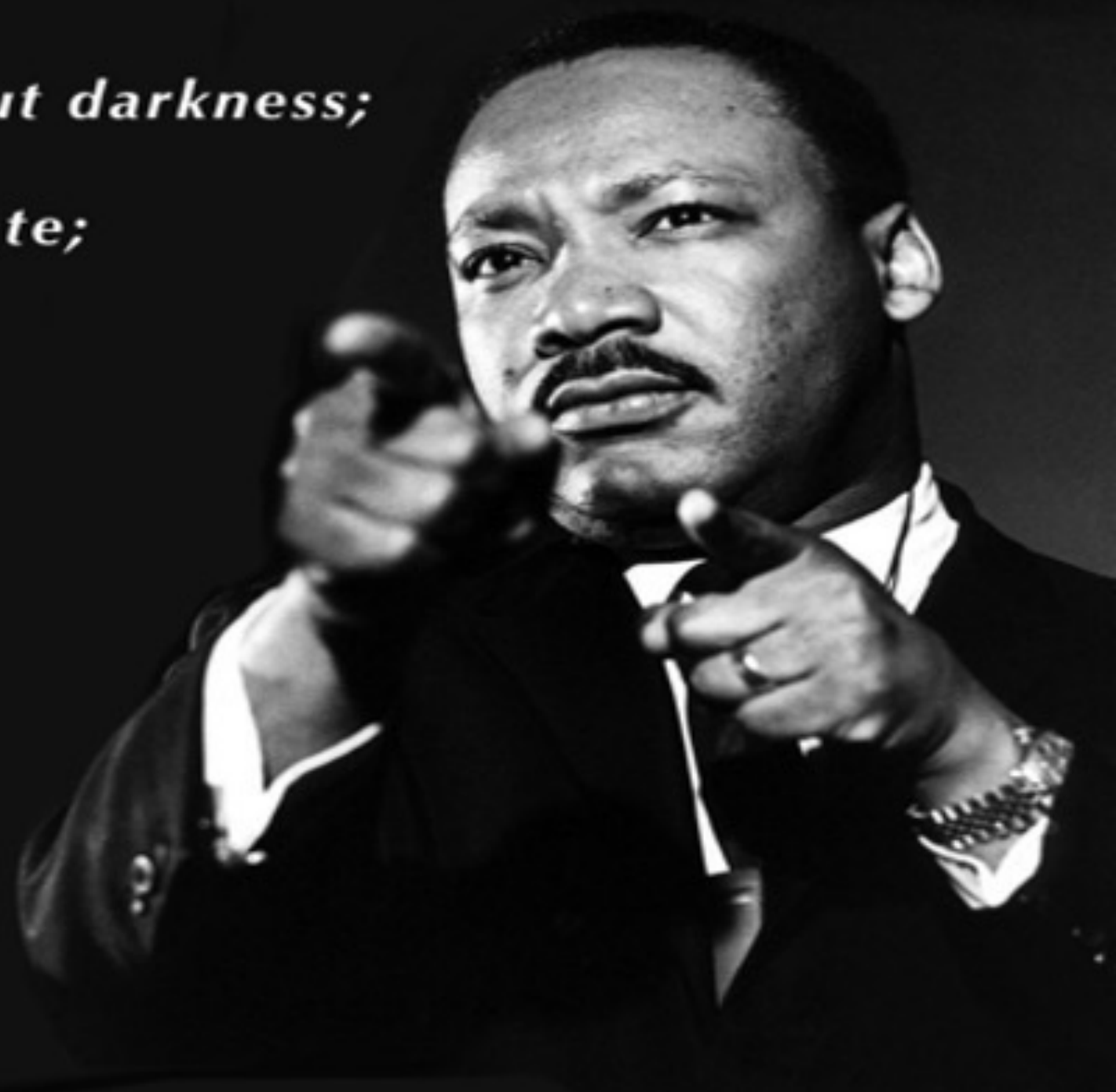
- **Matthew 5:15** - Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

No Fear

- **Matthew 5:16** - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.*

Martin Luther King Jr.



Perfect Love Casts Out Fear

- **1 John 4:16-21** - ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ **There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.** For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ **If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.** ²¹ **And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.**

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