

## Light shines in the dark

*„The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them has the light shined.“* Isaiah 9,2;

Light was created first, right after the creation of heaven and earth. Since then, day and night have alternated on earth. Man lives by day, and at night he should rest and sleep (unless he has to work). The sun is said to be life-giving because it makes the crops that man needs to live grow and ripen, and the whole cycle of nature depends on the sun. Indeed, sunlight is indispensable for life on earth. God saw that light is good (Gen. 1:4 ) because it is life-giving and life-sustaining.

he great light of which the prophet Isaiah writes (Isaiah 9:1(2)) is not the sun or any other physical source of light. It is a prophetic word that was first fulfilled when Jesus began to publicly proclaim the gospel (Matt. 4:16-17a<sup>1</sup>). Jesus' preaching was the great light for all at that time, because the gospel he preached is about the hope for all people for a lasting life without dying, without war, without crime, without hunger, and without disease. He confirmed his preaching with mighty deeds, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and walking to the lame, raising the dead, turning water into wine, feeding thousands of hungry people with a few loaves and fishes, walking on water as on earth, rebuking the storm and it ceased. His deeds had one thing in common. All the miracles Jesus did were life sustaining and life saving. Not just the temporary, short life we live. Jesus' preaching and works brought hope to people, great and small, that God has the power to raise the dead, forgive sins, and give people back the ability to live permanently without dying. That is why the preaching of Jesus was then the great light that shone in a land of deep darkness where people lived in the shadow of death. What has happened that so many people today refuse to believe God's and Jesus' word and deeds? And why is it important that they believe God and his Son? We are living in a pivotal time in which it is no longer just about a better life level. After centuries in which everything seemed to be going as it did at the beginning of creation (2Pe 3:3-4), a change is coming. Just as the world has changed after the two world

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<sup>1</sup> „The people who sat in darkness saw great light; and to them who sat in the region and shadow of death, light is sprung up. “ Matt. 4:16;

wars, we stand again on the threshold of further breakthrough changes. The last part of the Babylonian epoch is coming. With it will come a beast unlike anything mankind has experienced (Da 7:74). If we see the light of God in His Word, we will not remain indifferent to the plight of other people and will spread it further. Let us not remain with the blind lest we fall into the pit with them.

### The blind cannot see the light.

Blind people live in physical darkness. They are aware of this, but people who can see the sun and the world around them, but do not perceive and do not distinguish between the physical and the spiritual side of the world in which they live, often do not even know that they are missing something. That what they see is not true light, but great spiritual darkness. Those who have a materialistic attitude to life are unilaterally limited in their perception of the world, life and the values associated with it. Such a person may perceive the problems that afflict people, perhaps even have a serious problem himself, but he does not see the real causes and their originators because he simply does not believe in their real existence. They do not take seriously the Word of God, nor the evidence for the existence of God and his opponents. That is why the world is in information darkness, because people have rejected vital information, the word of life (Hos. 4:6; Rom. 1:19-22; Jn. 14:17; 15:18-19) even though they don't have to. The spiritual form of God's creation is accessible to humans. We can see it when we think about God's work (Rom. 1:19-21), and through that we have a chance to discern what leads to life. We can only "see" those invisible things with our minds and hearts, not with our eyes. Let him who sees only what he can touch (the apostle "doubting" Thomas) realize how many things he is convinced exist and cannot to touch them. For example, electricity, wind or information. The light is the life-giving Word of God, which shines continuously and is not swallowed up by darkness. God's Word shows that our whole ephemeral life is about choosing between good and evil. To understand what this means, we must go to the beginning of the events that brought the world to its present state.

## Signpost in the garden

*About the garden, we know that "... the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. ... And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to work it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die."* (Gen 2,8-9; 15-17)

The garden was created for man, it was his home. God created it so that man would have plenty of food, so that he would not have to work in the sweat of his face, so that he would not have any existential problems or be in danger of death. He was to cultivate it and guard it and probably expand it until it began to multiply. Man had only one prohibition (no hundreds of prohibitions, commands, and restrictions as in today's laws). In the middle of the garden was an extraordinary tree of life. And with it in the garden was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam and his wife had both trees in front of them, and they knew that to eat of the tree of knowledge meant death. They could eat from the tree of life without restriction. Yet they didn't even think about it. They could have known the world in which God had placed them so that in time they would understand the meaning of the tree of life. And gradually they would discover why God forbade them to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. Clearly, God must have had a good reason for placing the tree of knowledge in the garden, even though it was dangerous to man. God knew that He created man well (Gen. 1:31) so man would not have violated the prohibition on his own. Man was in ideal conditions on the path of life that we find so hard to follow today (Matt. 7:13-14) not an easy path to follow at all. The two trees represented the signpost of the two paths. Eating the fruit of the tree of life would be to walk safely and unhindered on the path of life. To eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was to take the path at the end of which is death. We see what that means every day.

Why did God put a signpost in the garden before man in the form of the tree of life and the tree of knowledge? If we want to find the answer, we have to get rid of the idea that man was created perfect so that he did not have to continue to evolve and improve. On the contrary, it is now certain that God deliberately

created man to continually evolve from the physical man<sup>6</sup> to the spiritual man (sowing the spiritual body "*psychikos*", raising the spiritual body "*pneumatikos*"<sup>7</sup>) (1 Cor 15:44). By telling Adam that he was but dust and would turn to dust, God was showing that Adam and his wife were only at the beginning of their spiritual development and the image of God was yet to become Adam and his descendants. The presence of the tree of life in the garden also shows that man was not assured of eternal life until he realized its value and would consciously eat of the fruit of the tree of life.

When God said to the people: *"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."* Gen 1,28; It's not just about multiplying, but the Hebrew word p-r-h (parah) can mean to bring forth in the sense of bearing fruit, like the results of one's labor.

*"Even so every good tree brings forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."* (Mtt 7,17-19)

What does it mean to bear good fruit? Deuteronomy answers this question (5M 30:15). In it, God tells the Israelites: *"See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil;"*. It follows that good fruit promotes life, bad fruit leads to death. [Man was created for life](#), which means, among other things, that he was meant to bear good fruit as God did when He created. He would nurture life on earth by his further development during life without dying, according to God's plan. He would grow up naturally to the realization that good is everything that promotes life and evil is everything that ultimately leads to death. Without knowing it, even today people have the choice between permanent life and death. Spiritual darkness has caused many people to become unnecessarily resigned and reject God's hope for lasting life or to believe the doctrine of reincarnation, the cycle of many lives where the end of one life means a transition to another life or existence. These doctrines deny God's justice and way of salvation even for those who have fallen asleep in death. Such people are as it were wrapped in a web of appealing but evil ideas and forces that eventually lead man to death. They can be saved by the light that leads to life.

## The serpent's lie and the arousal of lust

*“And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die: For God does know that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.” Gen 3,4-6;*

The serpent thoroughly deceived the woman (1 Tim. 2:14), because he gave the woman the impression that God was preventing her and Adam from being wise as gods by forbidding them to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Which was a big lie, because God created man in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Man was to be the image of God, and because God is Spirit, man was to acquire His spiritual attributes, including wisdom and the knowledge of good and evil. But he was yet to attain to these. The tree of knowledge probably served as a test of faithfulness and obedience to his Creator but also to alert man to the existence of good and evil. God did not conceal anything from man, but He did everything so that man could discover and know God's creation and God's natural order for himself. The tree of knowledge may have been in the garden for other reasons as well, because man was and still is part of all of God's creation even in heaven, and is therefore under the attention of the angels, as the apostle Paul writes about (1 Cor. 4:9; 11:10; Col. 1:20). The serpent indirectly accused God of wrongdoing. The highest principle of God's natural order is life support. The serpent did the exact opposite and led men astray from the path of life to the path of death.

The way the snake deceived the woman is the greatest warning to us all. He not only lied about God's intentions, but he also aroused the woman's DESIRE for the forbidden fruit<sup>8</sup> that promised the knowledge of good and evil. He did this by giving her the impression that she would lose something very important (wisdom) if she did not drink of the forbidden fruit. The woman saw that the fruit was tempting to look at (Gen. 3:6). This method of seducing people has been used by God's adversary through his servants throughout the ages.

History is replete with examples of the uncovering of the remains of civilizations that had unprecedented development and unusual knowledge in the beginning, which people received probably through angels, only to have those civilizations crumble, become extinct rather quickly. Knowledge that looked very useful and appealing and provided only benefits to the recipients at first glance turned out

to be an ambush that led to their demise. The consequence of the serpent's lie was the evil development of man right from the violation of God's prohibition. *“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”* Gen 6,5; Deceit and delusion are at the beginning of the path leading man into the darkness at the end of which is death. We can see the same scenario today. Man, blinded by new and new discoveries and inventions, fails to see that none of them bring only good and benefit or a better life for all, but on the contrary they increase the greater threat of destructive war or abuse for enslavement, they have not eliminated hunger or disease (some have been almost eradicated, others new dangerous diseases have appeared), nor injustice. And so it is with all the knowledge that man has acquired. Instead of leading to a better life for all, discoveries and inventions become, on the contrary, even more powerful instruments of evil, abused by the powerful of this world to control the rest of humanity in a way that leads to death without hope of resurrection and to a totalitarianism such as humanity has never known.

### [Behind everything there is strife in heaven](#)

The question that comes to mind is, why did the snake do that? We can't see inside his head, but there are texts in the Bible that may give us a clue. In Job, we learn in the first two chapters that God's adversary Satan challenged the Creator's evaluation of Job (Job 1:7-12; 2:3-6). Both chapters describe a controversy in which Satan continually questioned Job's purity, thereby challenging the quality of God's creation. While we do not know when the controversy began in heaven, the serpent's seduction of Adam's wife was already a result of it. God knew that Satan was in fact seeking power to equal the Most High (Isa. 14:13-14), but he would ultimately end up in the deepest underworld. From him comes all evil upon the whole inhabited earth (Rev 12:9 - *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*).

The Serpent, the Dragon, Satan and the Devil in one person lead humanity to destruction through their slaves. It is hard to believe, but the evolution leads to the enslavement of humanity under the rule of its lawless man. He who does not see this is like a frog who does not even know that he is already swimming in hot water. By the time he notices it, it will be too late.

## Efforts in heaven to save every person

*“Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents.”* L 15,10;

For a person with a materialistic mindset, it is probably difficult to imagine that the events perceivable by our senses are only the visible tip of an iceberg, the most important part of which is hidden from our bodily senses. Yet atheism and materialism are just products of the spirit that keeps the world in information darkness so that as few people as possible will want to read and believe the words of life in the Bible. As far away from life-giving information as possible. So that people don't realize that every person is cared for in heaven. God's angels rejoice over every repentant person because they have hope of salvation and eternal life. Because people who humble themselves before God forgiven. Disobedient people have hearts and foreheads like stone and cannot be persuaded in a good way that the Creator has the right to rule His creation. Other heavenly authorities, on the other hand, help God's adversaries to deceive and seduce people<sup>12</sup> into not accepting God's life-giving Word and rejecting God's offer of salvation. We do not see our Lord interceding for us in heaven because Satan is accusing day and night those who serve God (Rev. 12:10). The spirit of opposition that leads the whole world to rebel against God is growing stronger. How will the majority of mankind be drawn into rebellion against God? Paul writes in his second letter to the Thessalonians: *“For the mystery of iniquity does already work: only he who now restrains will do so, until he be taken out of the way. 8And then shall that Wicked One be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the breath of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10And with all deception of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”* (2 Thess. 2:7-10).

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The light has existed longer than man, but just as the blind man does not see the light of day, so spiritual blind men do not see things invisible to our eyes. God wants people to become aware of spiritual blindness so that they will begin to seek the author of the light of life, the Creator God, and His life-giving Word.

*“Boast not against the branches. But if you boast, you bear not the root, but the root you. You will say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not arrogant, but fear: 21For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also not spare you.” (Rom 1:18-21)*

Let us notice that the apostle speaks of things invisible, which are accessible to us when understood with the mind, not with the eyes. Anyone who creates or discovers something new knows this. First he sees it in his mind, and then he creates or describes it, so that what only he sees with his inner sight may be seen by others. So the light invisible to our eyes is everywhere with us at the same time as the invisible darkness, and we need to learn to see both and to distinguish what is light and what is darkness. The true light of life is in the information our minds work with and in the act of love shown by the Son of God who willingly gave himself for us to pay for our lives with his life. Whoever believes in him will be saved, and even if he dies, he will live (Jn 11:25)

### The words of life

*“It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.” (Jn 11:25).*

What can we expect from God's Word that is meant to lead us to salvation and eternal life? Jesus' words to his disciples point the way. Not in physically securing physical immortality. That is what the sons of the Evil One are trying to do by funding scientific research into human DNA and genes. That is where they see the path to immortality. Jesus/Yeshua, on the other hand, says it is His words that mean life. Words are information and Jesus' words are information about the path to life through faith. It is impossible for a carnally minded person to understand: *“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (1 Cor. 2:12-14).*

What does Jesus advise us to do? *“This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you no longer walk as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,*



*Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"*  
(Eph 4:17-18)

The words of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, His sacrifice that redeems us from judgment, are the foundation of the great light that came into the world two thousand years ago. Nothing has changed about that. Today, knowledge has come from the prophetic word. Knowledge of God and His Son, of His righteousness and love, has come. This is the light of life that the darkness has not yet swallowed up.

### The light of life will grow stronger when the Day comes

We can expect God to warn the Christian nations and the rest of the world (e.g., [the Rider on the white horse](#)) of the wrath of God and the Lamb at the right time. Only then will the calamities of the other seals occur. A great number of people will know that God has warned them in time through his and Christ's servants. This will also be proof that our Lord is with us all the days, even to the end of the age. This will also make the prophecy of Isaiah 2:2 come true; "*And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.*" What does it mean in the last days? Some translations render this text "*in the last days,*" and it means in the last days of our age. Not after its demise, but during the existence of this age there will be a physically existing place where God's people fleeing from the wickedness of the last beast will gather. This will not occur in an instant. The emergence of the physical kingdom of God will be subtle at first. How can this happen? Jesus' parable of the kingdom of God being like a mustard seed indicates that the kingdom of God will be tiny in the beginning (Matt. 13:31-32; Zech. 4:10), as does the prophet Zechariah.

God helps us by His prophetic word to discern light from darkness and not to be deceived by the slaves of the Evil One who confuse light for darkness and darkness for light. Even for them there is a warning in God's word (Isa. 5:20-24) to forsake these evil things.

## There's only light at the end

*“And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bore twelve manner of fruit, and yielded its fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be on their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no lamp, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign forever and ever.” (Rev 22:1-5)*

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, there was only darkness on the earth, and the Spirit of God (ruach = wind, spirit) was hovering over the waters. Therefore, the first thing God made was light, because light is indispensable for life. God saw that light is good precisely because it supports life. Without it, there would be no life on earth. The same is true of spiritual light, which, though we cannot see it with our eyes, we can see it with our minds and hearts. Matthew (6:22-23) quotes Jesus' words about the light that is within us: *“The light of the body is the eye: if therefore your eye be sound, your whole body shall be full of light. But if your eye be evil, your whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you be darkness, how great is that darkness!”* What does "clear eye" mean? The eye is the gateway to the soul of man. A clear eye is the eye of one who has the good of all in mind. The good is everything that supports life. For example, spreading the gospel and doing good works that would cause people to give honor to God and Jesus Christ (Matt. 5:14-16). This is within our power.

So far, we are little lights, candles, but they shine more the darker it gets. And it's darkest before dawn. The light is also the understanding that the sons of the Evil One are preparing the world its final form. God is preparing salvation for His elect (Matt. 24:20-22). A beast will appear unlike anything mankind has experienced. God will equip His elect with His seal or Holy Spirit (symbolically 144,000 elect will be chosen at the beginning) in fullness, and others will be added to them gradually. Some Christians will fall away from the living God. All suffering will be ended by the coming of Jesus Christ (2 Thess. 2:8; Da. 2:44-45). Let us be patient and persevering. Knowledge will increase and the love of God and Christ will abound in us. Christ is with us for all time, even to the end of the

age. In the end, the light of life will prevail over darkness and death, until there is no more darkness or death.