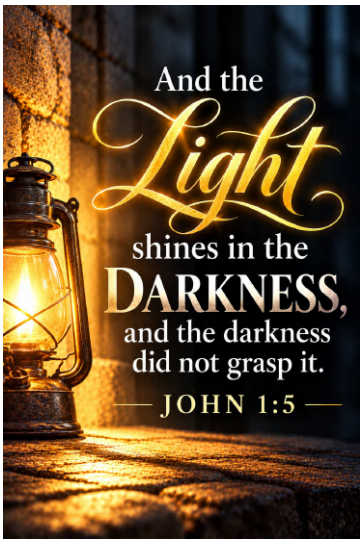
30 October 2026

Light in the Darkness



Darkness is around us and is growing.

Today we will have 9 hours and 54 minutes of daylight here in Peachland, compared to 16 hours and 9 minutes on June 16. We are creeping toward 8 hours and 6 minutes of daylight on December 21.

Whatever you think about daylight savings time, which we don't have any longer in B.C., it changes the clocks, but not the amount of daylight. Whatever your clock says, today we have just over 60% of the daylight we had on June 16.

Darkness is growing.

A much more serious concern is the great darkness of sin, of people rejecting God, His truth and grace — the spiritual darkness in our world. Part of that is the darkness of Satan and his forces. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians chapter 11 verse 14 that "Satan disguises himself as an angel of light", and earlier in chapter 4 he tells us Satan "has blinded the eyes of the unbelieving so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ." (4).

How do we respond to this?

God tells us in the opening lines of John's gospel that

> "In Him [Jesus] was life, and the life was the Light of mankind. And the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not grasp it" (4-5).

With this opening John goes to the bottom line of the battle against evil, sin, death and Satan — Jesus Christ shines and triumphs! Remember, Jesus told us, "I am the Light of the world" (John 9:5), and "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12).

Our English versions give several different readings for the end of John 1:5, "the darkness did not grasp it", "the darkness has not overcome it", "the darkness comprehended it not", and, just one more, "the darkness can never extinguish it." The word rendered *grasp, overcome, comprehend* and

extinguish had a range of meanings. Its basic meaning was to make something yours, to win or attain, to get control. Then as well when it was used for information, the idea often was to understand or grasp. One writer tells us, "this verse is a masterpiece of planned ambiguity." The long and short of it is that I think both the ideas of not grasping and not overcoming are involved here. The darkness of sin cannot neither understand nor can it defeat the light, Jesus Himself and the light of truth He brings. We have confidence because this is true, no matter how dark the world is.

Also recall Jesus' words in Matthew chapter 5,

> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (14-16).

In Ephesians chapter 5 Paul wrote, "now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth)" (8b-9). As we walk in the light of Christ, we shine light into the dark world around us.

Make sure you are *light in the darkness* today, every day.

