

THE GOD WHO WORKS IN THE DARK

By Chip Whitman, M.A.

The next time you are facing darkness, remember, God may in fact be doing some of His greatest work in you.

When most of us think of God, we associate "light" and "love" with Him. In fact, we are called to walk in the light of His love and fellowship with Him. But I would like to suggest to you that this same God also works in our darkest times. There are four references in scripture to great works He has done ***"in the dark"***.

The first reference is found as soon as we open our Bible. Genesis 1:1-2 tells us that ***darkness*** was upon the surface of the deep and that the Spirit of God was brooding or hovering over the waters. God began the magnitude of His creation in the dark.

The second reference is found in Exodus 12. In verse 31 we are told that Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron ***in the night*** and told them to leave Egypt with all of Israel and go worship the Lord as they had requested. So they left in the middle of the night. God even gave them a cloud which brought ***darkness*** on one side to the Egyptians, and light on the other to the Israelites. God indeed worked His greatest deliverance found in the Old Testament in the dark. This was yet a shadow of an even greater deliverance He would later work for all mankind.

The third reference is found in the twentieth chapter of Exodus when God gave the Law, the Ten Commandments to Moses. In verse 21 we are told that the people remained at a distance while Moses approached the ***thick darkness*** where God was. It was in this setting that God spoke to Moses concerning the Law which would serve as a mirror of our very souls, and as a guide to bring us to the Savior, Jesus Christ.

The fourth reference is found in the beginning of the New Testament. In describing the crucifixion of Christ, Matthew tells us in 27:45 that from the sixth hour until the ninth hour, or from noon until three, ***darkness*** came over all the land. As it was in the Passover, it was again darkness that God chose to accomplish His greatest act of love and deliverance for mankind on the cross.

The final reference has not yet happened, yet it will be a final great deliverance for God's people. The Apostle Paul tells us in his first letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 5, Verse 2, that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the ***night***.

Although I would like to live all my days in the light and love of God's presence, there are times when my prayers don't seem to be answered and it seems dark all around me. When trials, tests, or tragedy befall me, I need to know that I love and serve a God who is not afraid of the dark. I am thankful that we have a God who not only is not afraid, but in fact does some of His most powerful work in the dark. I can say with the Psalmist David, as he wrote in:

Psalm 18:28

***"You, O Lord, keep my
lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness
into light."***

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