

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE  
***THE DARKNESS IS PASSING AWAY***  
**1 John 2:8**

For the past month we have focused attention on the glorious fact that Jesus the Messiah is the Light of the world, looking at various aspect of that truth. This morning we consider the declaration that "the darkness is passing away." Really? How could he say that? Is the darkness gaining ground and in danger today of snuffing out the light of the knowledge of Christ around the world?

**1. Encouragements to "walk in the light"**

Christians are to "walk in the Light, as He (God) is in the light." 1 Jn.1:7  
John explains in 2:3-11 that this means keeping God's commands,  
& especially the command to love one another.

The Lord's apostle gives a number of encouragements to believers ...

- Jesus Christ is our Advocate with the Father (2:1,2).

- If we humbly confess our sins (failures to walk in the light),  
God forgives us (1:7-10).

- & in vv.7,8 - this amazing statement:

*"The darkness is passing away."*

We might understand someone today saying, "Really?"

**2. The darkness IS passing away,  
BECAUSE the True Light is shining!**

John's statement is not based on his confidence in human endeavor,  
but in the nature & character of Christ, the Light of the world.

Analogy: physical light has power over darkness, not the other way around.

As God the Son, the Word, from the beginning of the creation,

He has been "the Light of men ... shining in the darkness" (John 1:4,5).

But that light might have seemed a small glimmer in the darkness of  
our fallen world of sin, lies, confusion, rebellion against God.

Then He came into the world as "the Light of the world" (John 8:12),

& despite all opposition He triumphed over the darkness -

on the cross, in His resurrection & ascension, at Pentecost.

The darkness *cannot* prevail against Christ.

**3. To the ends of the earth and the end of the age,  
the Light of Christ driving the darkness back.**

The Great Commission & the Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matt.13:31d)

A quick tour of world history down to our day.

Are Christians today fearful of looming darkness? Yes.

Is this anything new? No.

Can the darkness defeat the Light that is Christ? NO!

*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.* **Habakkuk 2:15**