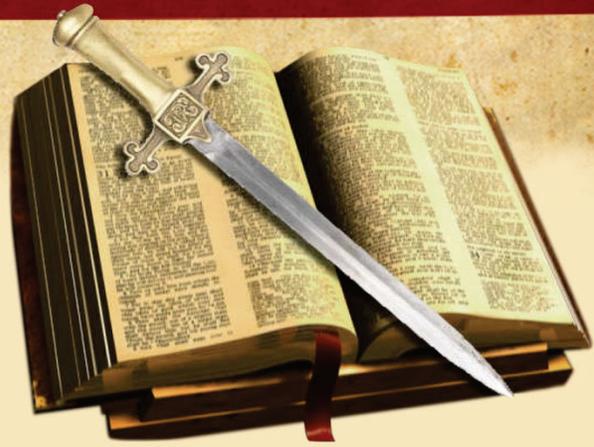


Setting Your Heart

on the

Kingdom



GENESIS

The Light of the World

(The Principle of Light)

Genesis 1:1-4

Something had gone terribly wrong. God's world of peace, order, and purpose had been tragically corrupted into a wasteland of chaos and spiritual darkness (so indicates the original Hebrew). Scripture leads us to understand that evil originated from an angelic insurrection in heaven (Is. 14:11-14; Ezek. 28:12-17; Rev. 12:3-9). Lucifer, who had been an anointed cherub, led the rebellion and was cast to the earth bringing with him a violent kingdom of evil. Yet, far above the turmoil and disorder, the Spirit of God hovered with a holy intensity to restore divine order and control to a corrupted planet. Out of the heart of the Creator there resonated His first ever recorded words in Scripture, "Let there be light!" or according to 2 Cor. 4:6, "*Let light shine out of darkness.*" Herein lies the strategy of God: ***God brings order out of confusion and purpose out of chaos—from within! Divine light was intended to shine out of the midst of evil.***

While Jesus was in the world, He was the Light of the World (John 9:5). Now we have become His light...shining as a witness in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation (Philip. 2:15). We are His "light-bearers"...reflecting the light of God's love, mercy and restoration even in the midst of our personal trials and tribulations.

Dear Christian, if you only knew the power of your witness from within your present darkness! It doesn't matter whether you are struggling with personal sin or oppressive forces. In this first month of a New Year, let the Spirit of God shine from within your heart, bringing restoration and lifting you above the turmoil of your dilemma. Yield to the sovereign hand of God at work to restore and transform you into His vessel of light. It is the crushed rose that releases the sweetest fragrance. It is the soul who has been delivered from darkness that shines the brightest. Shine out of the darkness of your chaos! Shine with the demonstration of God's grace and forgiveness. Shine, Christian, shine with an enlightened heart and life. ***You are God's agent witnessing that His Righteous Kingdom triumphs over Satan's kingdom of evil—even from within!***

Next Week: The Kingdom of God in Exodus... "The Devil's Greatest Fear!"

