

Great Darkness, the Light & the Truth

I. Choose the Truth & Walk in the Light

Isaiah 9:2 (NIV®)

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Matthew 4:16–17 (NIV®)

¹⁶ the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” ¹⁷ From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

Luke 21:3–4 (NIV®)

³ “**I tell you the truth**,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

John 8:58–59 (NIV®)

⁵⁸ “**I tell you the truth**,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” ⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

Luke 2:28–32 (NIV®)

²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all people, ³² **a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.**”

II. “Let me know the truth before I die.”

John 14:6 (NIV®)

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Objective Truth — Universal, Knowable, Transcends Gov’ts
Subjective Truth — Personal, Circumstantial, Ever Changing

A. The Great Impact of Women (Is Not Being Like Men)

B. Great Influence

1 Samuel 1:10-11, 22 (NIV®)

¹⁰ In bitterness of soul Hannah wept much and prayed to the LORD. ¹¹ And she made a vow, saying, "O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head." ...²² Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always."

1 Samuel 2:19-21 (NIV®)

¹⁹ **Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice.** ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home. ²¹ And the LORD was gracious to Hannah; she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD.

Matthew 20:20-22 (NIV®) (James & John)

²⁰ **Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.** ²¹ "What is it you want?" he asked. She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom." ²² "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered.

Mark 6:22, 24 (NIV®) (Herodias, wife of Herod's brother)

²² When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." ...²⁴ **She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"** "The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

John 2:1-5 (NIV®)

¹ On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, **Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."** ⁴ "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Matthew 6:33 (NIV®)

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.