

## TWO IN ONE?

**Text: I Corinthians 4:1-5**

**Key Word:** Righteousness

**Key Thought:** Ungodliness and Righteousness Cannot Dwell Together

Our world is changing very quickly. What for millenniums of time used to be considered evil is now propagated as good. Actions and words that our forefathers would never allow in their homes are now **widely** and **wildly** spread on our streets, workplaces, halls of education and radically push by our politicians. Law and justice seems to be fading away. Should this be changing the true Church of God's people in their words and actions? The simple answer is NO! That is why we are seeing a great divide even within churches. I see it as an important sign that Jesus is going to Rapture His Church very soon.

One dynamic truth that the Bible emphasises is that there is a huge difference between light and darkness. Not only is this true in the natural realm, it is also very clear in the spiritual realm.

*“When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee.*

*13. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—*

*14. to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:*

*15. “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—*

*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 has come near.”***

*Matthew 4:12-17*

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”*

*John 1:5*

*“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.”*

*I John 1:5*

## I. LIGHT AND DARKNESS ARE TOTALLY SEPARATE

It is impossible to combine light and darkness. We don't have to be convinced of this in the natural realm but we often forget to relate it in the spiritual realm. Why do we do that?

*“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*

*John 8:12*

*“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.”*

*Isaiah 60:1*

There is a great meaning in the term **“the light has dawned”** like Jesus referred to Himself as doing in Matthew 4:16. Anyone who has watched the beauty of a sunrise understand how quickly the darkness is engulfed. Physical darkness cannot survive as the natural sun rises. Likewise, Jesus made it clear we will either walk in the light as He is in the light or we will walk in darkness. This **“light”** brings **“life.”** So in contrast those who **“walk in darkness”** are heading toward an eternal death that is totally separated from God.

When Job was struggling to understand God's purpose in his pain and suffering he cried out . . .

*“Are not my few days almost over? Turn away from me so I can have a moment's joy  
21. before I go to the place of no return, to the land of gloom and utter darkness,  
22. to the land of deepest night, of utter darkness and disorder, where even the light is like darkness.”*

*Job 10:20-22*

Jesus made it clear when he said for the Centurion of great faith and the crowds . . .

*“But the subjects of the kingdom (Jews who foolishly believed that because of their ancestry that they had inherited a passport to heaven) **will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**”*

*Matthew 8:12*

Last week I had to take our car into the Hyundai dealership to have our turning signal changed due to a recall. Owners had problems with their left turning signal activating when they were turning right and vice versa. Can you imagine if the problem became instant worldwide?

## I. LIGHT AND DARKNESS ARE TOTALLY SEPARATE (Contd.)

That is exactly how problematic this is to take lightly the truth of walking in darkness of walking in light. We are either walking in light or walking in darkness. Traffic lights are either red, yellow or green. If one of my medications has a label saying it contains 50 mg, I expect it to have 50 mg of that exact medication. Street drugs (or black market drugs) cannot be trusted, Drug overdoses are killing more people in North America than any other cause.

“Nearly 841,000 people have died since 1999 from a drug overdose. In 2019, 70,630 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States. The age-adjusted rate of overdose deaths increased by over 4% from 2018 (20.7 per 100,000) to 2019 (21.6 per 100,000). Opioids—mainly synthetic opioids (other than methadone).”

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths>

As of Nov 17, 2021 the number has risen for the first time to over a million people dying in a year due to drug overdose. I'm sure we all have heard of someone dying because drug cartels care only about making money. Increased death rates indicate increased usage.

There are so many things that are happening across the world that are contrary to our Bibles that are the basis of sickness and death. The only way to avoid it is to repent and walk according to God's Holy Word. Drugs, high levels of alcohol, abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, AIDS, corruption in all levels of authority worldwide, laboratory created pandemics, lifestyles that the Bible says are an abomination to God. These and many more are killing people. Living for God is another way of saying that we “**Choose Life over death.**”

## II. UNGODLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS CANNOT DWELL TOGETHER

This leads me to my second point. Ungodliness and righteousness cannot dwell together in harmony with each other. We can't be half full of God and half full of the devil. There is no such a thing as a dormant evil spirit abiding in a child a Christ. Pastor can you tell the difference from a Christian and a nonchristian 100% of the time? No I can't. Only God can.

*“Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.”*

*I Corinthians 4:5-6*

A piece of fruit can look good on the outside and still be rotten inside. Have you ever cut open a potato and found it hollow inside? God's final harvest will bring about the great divide.

## II. UNGODLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS CANNOT DWELL TOGETHER (Contd.)

*“ . . . Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.*

*15. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.”*

*II Corinthians 11:14-15*

*“Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?*

*15. What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?*

*16. What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God.*

*II Corinthians 6:14-16*

*“Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.*

*1.1 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?*

*12. My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.”*

*James 3:10-12*

*“So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.*

*17. Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless **and fall from your secure position.***

*II Peter 3:14,17*

Are you sure you are secure? What do you base it upon? Eternal security!

## II. UNGODLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS CANNOT DWELL TOGETHER (Contd.)

The apostle Peter wrote this stunning warning to the early church just prior to his death in 68 AD.

*“These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them.*

*18. For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error.*

*19. They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for “people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.”*

*20. If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.*

*21. It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.*

*22. Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”*

*II Peter 2:17-22*

I beseech you to not take lightly the Word of God. We won't be given a second chance after death or the Rapture. Today is the day of salvation. Someday soon, perhaps today, God will close the opportunity as Jesus comes to take His Church to be with Him in heaven. **There is going to be a day of closure very soon.** Just like God closed the door to the ark in Noah's day, so will He do at the end of this age when the time of Gentiles comes to an end. **Any moment - Any Day - It is imminent.** Are you ready to be Caught Up in the Rapture of the True Church

C:\Documents\WPWin(2022)\Sermons.22\Rapture Ready\I Corinthians 4\_1.5.wpd

Date: Jan 16/22

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: Be Still and Know that I Am God

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**Text: I Corinthians 4:1-5**

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**Key Thought:** Ungodliness and Righteousness Cannot Dwell Together

*Matthew 4:12-17; John 1:5; I John 1:5*

### **I. LIGHT AND DARKNESS ARE TOTALLY SEPARATE**

*John 8:12; Isaiah 60:1; Matthew 4:16; Job 10:20-22; Matthew 8:12*

### **II. UNGODLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS CANNOT DWELL TOGETHER**

*I Corinthians 4:5-6; II Corinthians 11:14-15; II Corinthians 6:14-16; James 3:10-12  
II Peter 3:14,17 II Peter 2:17-22*