

Weaving the Word

Under His Wing

February 18, 2018

Welcome to where we're learning to live in the light as children of light!

What would you least like brought into the light?



Jesus learns of John's death just one day before wrapping up His Galilean tour, and reuniting with the Twelve in Jerusalem.



On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb and buried it. At that time **some Pharisees came to Jesus** [Jesus had allies at Herod's party (like the royal official and the Capernaum centurion) who get word to sympathetic Pharisees (like Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea) who warn Jesus] and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. **Herod wants to kill you.**" [I've always emphasized *kill* instead of *you*] He replied, "**Go tell that fox**, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' – Mt 14:12a; Mk 6:29; Lk 13:31-32 NIV

Jesus' goal is to proclaim that the Son of Man has come. He said He'd do it before the Twelve finish their tour of Judea; and He does it just before they meet up in Jerusalem. (Mt 10:23; Jn 5:25-27)

And, calling Herod a "fox" is a condemnation to the religious rulers.

In the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy. ... But those who seek my life to destroy it, [like the religious rulers siding with Herod] will go into the depths ... delivered over to the power of the sword ... **They will be a prey for foxes.** – Psalm 63:7b-10 NAS

Birds that partner with foxes should expect to be eaten.

In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely ***no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!*** "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who ***kill the prophets*** and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, ***but you were not willing!*** – Lk 13:33-34 NIV

Jesus had said to Nicodemus (who was on the Sanhedrin council):

"Everyone who does evil hates the light ... for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But **whoever lives by the truth comes into the light** ..." – John 3:20-21 NIV

You know by how far most believers miss living in the power of God's Kingdom?

One foot. The one foot they keep in the world.



We can't just sit in darkness and wish-pray our sin away.

John the Baptist's dad prophesied over him knowing he'll call his people to *repent* and prepare 'em for *action, because* ...

... the **rising sun** will come to us from heaven to **shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death**, to **guide our feet** into the path of peace." – Luke 1:76-80 NIV



This is the shadow realm. **Everything here is a shadow of the reality back home in heaven.** We forget that all the time.

We hold far too tightly onto things that'll dissolve in the light.

To live in the light we must come fully under His wing; because, there is no other light, just shifting shadows. (James 1:17)

So, let's dwell under His wings for a while *right now*.

Remember when Jesus said: "Among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." (Lk 7:28)

That's because those born of the Spirit endure forever, but ...

Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble ... like a fleeting shadow, he does not endure. – Job 14:1-2 NIV

There is no darkness nor shadow of death where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves. – Job 34:22 NKJ

... because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will **test** ... – 1 Corinthians 3:13 NIV

For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass ... So also will the rich man fade away ... **[But]** Blessed is the man who remains ... for when he has stood the **test** he will receive the crown of life ... – James 1:11-12 ESV

"... no one may see me and live. ... **[Therefore (as God said to Moses)]** When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the **rock** and **cover** you with my hand ..." – Exodus 33:20, 22a NIV

Behold, a **king** will reign in righteousness ... A **man** will be as a hiding place ... and a **cover** ... as the **shadow** of a **great rock** ... – Isaiah 32:1-2a NKJ

The Lord is my **rock**, my fortress and my deliverer ... God turns *my darkness into light* **[How?]** ... *his way* ... the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a **shield** for all who take refuge in *him*. – Psalm 18:2a, 28-30 NIV

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here [Rooster's a'crowin'! Sun's a'risin'! Almost time to face the music and His glory, so] ... put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. – Romans 13:11b-12 NIV

Dwell in the rock, and be like the dove ... – Jeremiah 48:28b NKJ

He who dwells in the shelter of the *Most High* will rest in the *shadow* of the Almighty. ... He will **cover** you with his feathers, and under his *wings* you will find refuge ... – Ps 91:1, 4 NIV

Like a bird that wanders from its nest is a man who wanders from his place. – Prov 27:8 NKJ

I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. ... I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings. – Psalm 61:2-4 NIV

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, **but you were not willing!** – Lk 13:34 NIV

Although they knew God, they neither glorified him *as God* nor gave thanks ... and their foolish hearts were darkened. – Romans 1:21 NIV

They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. – Ephesians 4:18 NIV

The heavens declare the glory of God ... he has pitched a tent for the **sun**, which is like a **bridegroom** coming forth ... nothing is hidden from its heat. – Psalm 19:1a, 4-6 NIV

Let them vanish ... Like a slug melting away – Psalm 58:7a, 8a NIV

All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that *is* coming will set them on fire ... But for you who revere my name, the **sun of righteousness** will rise with *healing* in its **wings**. – Malachi 4:1b-2a NIV

Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one. ... For the Lord God is a **sun and shield** ... – Psalm 84:9-11a NIV

... [God] made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. – 2 Corinthians 4:6 NIV

Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings ... with you is the fountain of life; in *your light* we see light. – Psalm 36:7-9 NIV

... its truth is seen in *him* and *you*, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. – 1 John 2:8b NIV

We, who ... reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory ... – 2 Corinthians 3:18a NIV

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for *you* are with me. – Psalm 23:4a NIV

May God arise ... may his foes flee before him. ... extol him who **rides on the clouds** ... he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land. ... **the wings of my dove are sheathed with silver, its feathers with shining gold.** – Psalm 68:1, 4, 6, 13 NIV



This Scripture is a prophetic portrait of the dove as seen from beneath its wings, while blocking the blast of the unfiltered face of God. On the Mount of Transfiguration, when Jesus' face shown like the sun, a bright cloud overshadowed His disciples. (Mt 17:2-5)

That's our Father Hen; and, we're His shadow babies!

It's not that He didn't want Moses to see Him; He said, "No one can and live."

So whatever you do, **don't wait for the full blast on that day.**

Get to know Him as the Shield before you see Him as the Sun.

That which reflects the Light remains. The rest will burn away.

Look, your house is left to you desolate. **[John was the last first-covenant-prophet]** – Lk 13:35a NIV

[The wicked] shall not depart out of darkness; the flame shall dry up his branches ... For the congregation of hypocrites shall be desolate ... – Job 15:30-34 KJV

Religious rules won't change a dark heart.

But, a heart bathed in light will change who rules!

I tell you, you will not see **me** **[the First last-covenant Prophet]** again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" – Luke 13:35b NIV

The 10th of Nissan. One year later. Four days before the cross. *Save the date.* This is the Psalm to the Levites (Ps 118) that the people quote as Jesus makes His triumphal entry, into Jerusalem.

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. **Live as children of light** ... and **[for heaven's sake; and the Father's, and especially yours]** **find out what pleases the Lord.** – Ephesians 5:8-10 NIV

To remain in the light we must become like the light, reborn and transformed as light babies.

After all, **He's the Father of lights.**