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Light of the World II (Revealing The Vision)

Influencing The Culture

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- I. Series: New Series Influencing the Culture
 - A. Matthew 5:¹³ **Ye are the salt of the earth: ...**
 - B. Subjects: Salt of the Earth I(Seasoning), II(Preservative), III(Disinfectant), IV(Offering)
 - C. Subject: Light of the World (The Darker It Gets, the Brighter We Shine)
- II. Homework: Study Matthew 5:14 -16, Isaiah 56:10-11, Mark 8:34-38
 - A. Why are watchmen blind and dumb? How does that impact the people?
 - B. What are the things that would make people ashamed of the Gospel?
 - C. Why is it that some people never walk into the revelation of vision?
- III. Text
 - A. Matthew 5:14–16 (AV)¹⁴ **Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**
 - B. Habakkuk 2:1–3 (AV)¹ I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. ² And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. ³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.
- IV. Subject: Influencing The Culture: Light of the World II (Revealing The Vision)
 - A. As Salt of the Earth, we are the Seasoning, Preservative, Disinfectant, and Offering.
 - B. Last week we look at our duality as Christians to also be the Light of the World
 1. Matthew 5: ¹⁴ **Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.**
 2. The Darker It Gets, The Brighter we Shine
 - a. Overpowering The Flesh with the Spirit of God
 - b. Overcoming The People with the Goodness of God
 - c. Overshadowing The World with the Word of God
 - C. Lets move on to two other aspects of our power to influencing the world through our light; and that is our assignment to bring to the world Divine Vision and Direction.
 1. Because of the Darkness of the World, simultaneously existing within us and those around us, we find a world filled with people without vision or direction.
 - a. NO VISION: Proverbs 29:18 (AV)¹⁸ Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he.
 - b. NO DIRECTION: Proverbs 16:25 (AV)²⁵ There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.
 2. The Rulers of the Darkness of this World have us wandering aimlessly in the dark with nowhere to go (Vision), and no direction on how to get there (Direction)
 3. Psalm 119:¹⁰⁵ Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet (Direction), and a light unto my path (Vision).
 - D. Next week we will talk about Direction, but today we want to look at our responsibility as the light of the world to reveal God's divine Vision!
 1. Because we are the light, people drawn to us looking for answers.
 2. In our lesson text, the people were in darkness, lost, distraught, and confused.
 3. Habakkuk 2:¹ I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.
 4. He came back with not only a Vision for his people, but a process that we are to

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follow as the Light of the World to Shine and Reveal God's Vision

- E. Subject: Influencing The Culture: Light of the World II (Revealing The Vision)
 - 1. Watching for the Vision, Writing the Vision, and Waiting on the Vision
- V. Watching for the Vision
 - A. Habakkuk 2: ¹ I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.
 - B. Without a Watchmen, the people will not get their Vision
 - 1. A lot of people miss what God has for them because those who are to give it to them are not watching.
 - 2. Isaiah 56:10 (AV)¹⁰ His watchmen *are* blind: they are all ignorant, they *are* all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.
 - 3. Prophets were compared to watchmen who would look out for the enemy and warn the people of any approaching danger.
 - 4. Too many people are perishing because the watchmen are not watching.
 - 5. A blind watchman can't see the vision, and a dumb or mute watchman can't bark to warn you when danger threatens the vision.
 - C. As the Light of the World, we must be willing to Watch for the Vision
 - 1. The people around us don't know where they are going, don't have answers, are confused; and they need watchmen and women who will go get the vision.
 - 2. Watchmen must have Double Vision (One Eye on God, and One Eye on the Devil)
 - a. Matthew 25:13 (AV)¹³ **Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.**
 - b. 1 Peter 5:8 (AV)⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
 - c. One eye on God, seeking the face of God, praying, interceding, fasting.
 - d. One eye on the Devil, binding, rebuking, overcoming evil with good.
 - 3. I see the devil trying to destroy you, but I also see God working it out for you.
 - 4. The devil is coming in like a flood to destroy you, but God shown me that no weapon formed against you shall prosper.
 - D. To Get the Vision, You Got to Watch for It!
- VI. Writing the Vision
 - A. Habakkuk 2: ² And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.
 - B. Without a Writer, the people will Miss the Vision
 - 1. The 2nd verse of our lesson text is translated write is so big that it can be read even if the person is on the run.
 - 2. Many Christians have the answers, the word of knowledge, the vision for the world; but it's written so small in their lives, that the world keeps missing it.
 - 3. People are busy, on the run, chasing down the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches that they are missing the vision that God has given us.
 - 4. We have too many undercover Christians, on the downlow Saints of God, in the closet Preachers, too many in the backroom Prophets.
 - 5. And the people are missing their divine answers, directions, and vision.
 - C. As the Light of the World, we must be willing to Write the Vision Big

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1. We may ridicule us and talk about us, but we must never be ashamed of the God in us; we must Write it Big.
2. Mark 8:38 (AV)³⁸ **Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.**
3. If you're going to be saved, be saved Big, be holy Big, be a preacher Big, be righteous Big. Go Big or Go Home!
4. Romans 1:16 (AV)¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

D. To Not Miss the Vision, You Got To Write It Big.

VII. Waiting on the Vision

- A. Habakkuk 2: ³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.
- B. As the Light of the World, God has called us to Shine our Light on His Vision
 1. To Get the Vision, You Got to Watch for It (Double Vision)
 2. To Not Miss the Vision, You Got to Write It Big (Don't' Be Ashamed)
 3. To Reveal the Vision, You Got to Wait for It
- C. Without Patience, the people with Give up on the Vision
 1. Some give up on the Vision because others get it before them
 - a. Psalm 73:1–3 (AV)¹ Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart. ² But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. ³ For I was envious at the foolish, *when* I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
 2. Some give up on the Vision because they lose hope and faith
 - a. Hebrews 11:1 (AV)¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
 - b. Ephesians 6:16 (AV)¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
 3. Some give up on the Vision because they have been through too much
 - a. Psalm 34:19 (AV)¹⁹ Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.
 - b. 2 Corinthians 4:8⁸ *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;
- D. To Reveal the Vision, You Got To Wait for It
 1. Habakkuk 2: ³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.
 2. Psalm 27:14 (AV)¹⁴ Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.
 3. Job 14:14 (AV)¹⁴ If a man die, shall he live *again*? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.
 4. Isaiah 40:30–31 (AV)³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: ³¹ But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.
 5. The World need to see us waiting on the Vision; Just wait on it, it shall surely come to past!