



# Reformation Christian Ministries

## Out of Darkness, Into Light

April 06

**...how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first BIND the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. (Matthew 12:29) When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. (Luke 11:21-22)**

One of the most basic themes of missions is this: God sending Light into the world, to make darkness go away. That Light, of course, is Jesus Christ, who is a Light to all the nations (Isa. 42:6; 49:6). After the resurrection of Christ, God gave Him a spiritual body called His Church, to spread His Light through the Gospel. Satan can no longer deceive the nations any longer (Rev. 20:3) because he is now cast out of heaven (Luke 10:18) and is spiritually bound in a pit of darkness (Rev. 20:1-3) along with his evil angels on the earth reserved unto final judgment (2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6) after which they shall be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10). But, the passages above assure us that he is also bound so that all God's elect shall be taken from his grip.

The job of missions in the salvation of souls is shining the Light into the darkness of Satan's domain and taking from him those held in darkness who are predestined to life eternal. This is done through preaching the Gospel. The Apostle Paul put it this way to King Agrippa describing God's calling of him to go to the Gentiles Acts 26:18 *To open their eyes, [and] to turn [them] from darkness to light, and [from] the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Me [i.e. Christ].*

The Scriptures describe the residence of Satan and his evil angels at the present time as a spiritual pit of complete darkness (2 Pet. 2:4, Jude 6). For them there is no parading before God as in the days of Job (Job 1-2). They are confined to earthly realms of absolute spiritual darkness. They worry

about being cast into the lake of fire before their appointed time (Mat. 8:29). A helpful description of this condition is that of a condemned prisoner on death row, but in their case, it is a spiritual death row cell of darkness. Confined with them are all the people who are held in darkness themselves and out of which God sovereignly calls some *out of darkness into his marvellous light* (1 Pet. 2:9).

It is this task to which RCM is committed—to bringing this light to shine forth in the midst of this darkness in which much of the world is presently confined. This is what you who pray and support this work are part of, this glorious task of God's mission of bringing forth Light to make the darkness go away. *For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 4:6) as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts (2 Pet. 1:19)*

And this because the strong man is bound by a far stronger One, our Lord Jesus Christ. What a joy it is to be part of this process of bringing Light to the world. Keep the RCM team in prayer, and all who spread the Light of Christ to the darkness of this world. Pray for God to open hearts to receive this light and for those who are and will be called forth to preach that light to their nations.

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