

L3 | "The Power of the Darkness of This World" | Colossians 1:9-17

I. Intro/Review:

- This World - The World to Come
- This World - Kingdom not of This World

- According to this world
 - The god of this world
 - The spirit of this world
 - Fulfilling the desires of the flesh and the mind
 - Temptation, enticement

II. Preview:

1. The Power of Darkness
 1. Darkness Round About God
 2. The Power of Darkness
2. Darkness
3. The Works of Darkness

III. Sermon:

1. The Power of Darkness
 - Associated with darkness
 - Error, wickedness
 - Ignorance, blindness
 - Night
 - Slippery, stumble, undiscoverable
 - Absence of light
 - Contexts
 - Absence of light
 - Away from the light of the sun
 - Away from the light of God
 - God's judgment
 - Something hid or kept secret - Matt. 10:27, Luke. 12:3, Rom. 16
 - Something revealed but not understood (ignorance) - Eph. 4, Rom. 1
 - Hearts and counsels - 1 Cor. 4
 - Wickedness - Eph. 6
 - Greatness of light
 - Ecc. 2:13 - "Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness."
 - Jn. 1:5 - "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

1. Darkness Round About God

- Psalm 97:1-3 - "The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about Him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne. A fire goeth before Him, and burneth up His enemies round about."
1. God is light - 1 John 1:5 - "This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all."
 - All wickedness, sin, and lies that is associated with darkness is not in God
 2. God divided light from darkness
 - Gen. 1:1-5 - "...and God divided the light from the darkness."
 - God is light and in Him is no darkness at all yet darkness is round about Him, yet divided from Him - separated from Him
 - Thus darkness is that which isn't of God and that which God will judge
 3. The darkness round about God - judgment and justice
 - Ps. 97:1-3 - "...righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne..."
 - Round about it is His wrath and justice
 - Israel a case study of God's light with darkness round about
 1. Ex. 10:21-23 - "And the LORD said unto Moses, "Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt. And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: they saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."
 2. Ex. 14:19-20 - "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: and it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night."
 - Josh. 24:7 - "And when they cried unto the LORD, He put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season."
 3. Ex. 20:21 - "And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."
 - Deut. 4:11 - "And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven,

with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness."

- Darkness divided from the light is used as judgment against God's enemies
- He dwells in the darkness and if you can penetrate the darkness is unspeakable light
 - Deut. 5:22 - "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;"
- In Him is no darkness at all yet darkness is round about Him in view of His holiness as wrath against the light, righteousness, etc
 - 2 Cor. 3 - the law the ministration of condemnation

2. The Power of Darkness

- If darkness is divided from the light, in God is no darkness at all, and darkness is used against His enemies, then
 1. Darkness is part of God's holiness concerning wrath and justice
 2. Darkness is rebellion and contrary to the light and beauty of His holiness - righteousness and judgment
 3. Therefore, the power of darkness is contrariness to God and His light, rebellion to His glory
 4. Satan, therefore, harnesses this power of darkness for his own will
 - We see this during the hour of the power of darkness - Luke 22:50-53
- The power of darkness - darkness' power or the power that proceeds from darkness
 - Satan's establishment and rule in accord with darkness - himself and use in heaven and earth
 1. Power - authority, rule, right, jurisdiction, liberty
 - Influence, token of control or governance, guide, lead
 2. Rule and jurisdiction is to influence in darkness which is divided from God in rebellion and contrariness to God
 - Eph. 6:10ff
 - Eph. 2:1-3
 - Eph. 4:17ff
 - Col. 2:8 - philosophy

IV. Conclusion:

2. Darkness - Rom. 13
 1. Its realm (mind and heart)
 2. Its manifestation (word and deed)
3. The Works of Darkness
 1. Their nature
 2. Their