

There are seasons of dark contradictions. “Contra” =against “Dicere” speak To assert the opposite to what someone has said. God spoke this! But....

2 Sam 21:1 *“Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered,” vs 14b “So they performed all that the king commanded. And after that God heeded the prayer for the land.”*

And right when David was getting comfortable his world went DARK

2 Sam 21:15-22 *“When the Philistines were at war **AGAIN** with Israel, David and his servants with him went down and fought against the Philistines; and David **grew faint**.¹⁶ Then **Ishbi-Benob**, who was one of the sons Of¹the giant, the weight of whose bronze spear was three hundred shekels, who was bearing a new sword, thought he could kill David.¹⁷ But Abishai the son of Zeruiah came to his aid, and struck the Philistine and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, “You shall go out no more with us to battle, lest you quench the lamp of Israel.”*

¹⁸ *Now it happened afterward that there was **AGAIN** a battle with the Philistines at Gob. Then Sibbechai the Hushathite killed **Saph**, who was one of the sons of the giant.¹⁹ **AGAIN** there was war at Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaare-Oregim the Bethlehemite killed the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver’s beam.*

²⁰ *Yet **AGAIN** there was war at Gath, where there was a man of great stature, who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was born to the giant.²¹ So when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea, David’s brother, killed him.*

²² ***These four** were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.*

Right when David thought he had peace giants start showing up in his life and threatens his destiny and promise made to him

Again, and Again, and Again, and Again.....when will it stop!

2 Samuel 22 which is Psalms 18

- Ps 18:4-5** 1. The waves of death surrounded me. (Breakers)
2. The floods of ungodliness made me afraid. (Flash flood!)
3. The sorrows of Sheol-Hell surrounded me. (travail)
4. The snares of death confronted me

Yesterday's Scriptural answer may not be today's solution to what I am going through and I am then challenged to press in, to dig deeper in the Scriptures and prayer to find the answer or solution that I need.

We need a life giving word something that gives us light in our darkness;

Ps 18:9-11 *"He made darkness His secret place"*

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

Ps 119:105 KJV

Text Isaiah 50:4-9 NKJV & 10-11 NLT

*"The Lord GOD has given Me
The tongue of the learned,
That I should know how to speak
A word in season to him who is weary.*

*He awakens Me morning by morning,
He awakens My ear
To hear as the learned.*

*⁵ The Lord GOD has opened My ear;
And I was not rebellious,
Nor did I turn away.*

*⁶ I gave My back to those who struck Me,
And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard;
I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.*

*⁷ "For the Lord GOD will help Me;
Therefore I will not be disgraced;
Therefore I have set My face like a flint,
And I know that I will not be ashamed.*

*⁸ He is near who justifies Me; (He who gives me justice is near)
Who will contend with Me? (Who will dare to bring charges against me now?)
Let us stand together.*

*Who is My adversary?
Let him come near Me.*

*⁹ Surely the Lord GOD will help Me;
Who is he who will condemn Me?
Indeed they will all grow old like a garment;
The moth will eat them up.*

Isaiah 50:10-11 Nlt

*“Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys his servant?
If you are walking in darkness,
without a ray of light,
trust in the LORD
and rely on your God.*

*¹¹ But watch out, you who live in your own light
and warm yourselves by your own fires.
This is the reward you will receive from me: You will soon fall down in great
torment.
You will soon fall down in great torment.*

In the passage we see questions

1. Who is among you that fears the Lord?
2. Who obeys the voice of His Servant?
3. Who walks in darkness and has no light?

**The Bible shows that God often lets His people go through contradictions in order to come to a place where they could
“Trust God in the Dark”**

One of the greatest facts of Biblical revelation is, what has been called Biblical or Christian Paradoxes; Collins Dictionary defines the word Gk “Para”, against, and “doxa”, opinion.

Paradox is a sentiment seemingly absurd, yet true, in fact a contradiction of received opinions.

Is 50:10 is an example of a Biblical paradox and apparent contradiction of what the Bible teaches.

The Scriptures show us that there are two kinds of darkness and two kinds of light.

1. The Darkness of Sin

-Acts 26:18 *"to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God"*

-Eph 5:8 *"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord."*

-1 Pet 2:9 *"who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"*

-John 12:46 *"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."*

2. The Darkness of God's Purposes become the Light of our Understanding.

The other aspect of *"darkness"* and *"light"* is that God sometimes leaves His people *"in the dark"* as to His purposes and dealings in their lives. He does not always give us *"light"* or understanding of His ways.

YET, we fear the Lord

YET, we obey His voice even when we walk in darkness, but not into light.

Jeremiah explains it this way in his book;

Lamentations 3:2 *"He has led me, and made me walk*

In darkness and not in light."

A paradox, a contradiction!

Ps 18:11 *"He made darkness His secret place"* He leads into His secret place

Biblical Examples of being left in the dark and keeping a good spirit

Abraham and Isaac: Promises of God, in your seed all nations blessed.

Joseph: given dreams by God, ends up in a pit, a slave in a mine.

Job: Lost sons and daughters, lost his livestock,

He never charged God foolishly (with wrong)

Job 30:26 *"But when I looked for good, evil came to me;*

And when I waited for light, then came darkness.

Job 13:15a *"Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him."*

Job 23:8-10 *"Look, I go forward, but He is not there,*

And backward, but I cannot perceive Him;

⁹ When He works on the left hand, I cannot behold Him;
When He turns to the right hand, I cannot see Him.
⁰ But He knows the way that I take;
When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold!

The Greatest Contradiction and Paradox...THE CROSS!

Heb 12:3 “*endured the cross*”, ³ *For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.*

The greatest paradox and contradiction is that which Jesus experienced on the cross of Calvary.

His is the perfect example of One who “*feared the Lord, obeyed His voice, yet walked in darkness, and had no light*”

Calvary is the great contradiction and everything seemed to be the opposite of all God said.

When Jesus hung on the cross there was 3 hours of darkness physically and spiritually. He trusted God in the moment of the greatest darkness.

What is God’s purpose in all of the darkness I am in?

1. By getting to **KNOW** the Lord Ps 9:10
2. Increasing our **LOVE** for the Lord 1 John 4:7-11, 16-19
The more you know a person the more you love them.
3. Learning to **TRUST** Him in a greater way Ps 16:1
4. **RELYING** on Him, and not be given to self-reliance Is 50:11
It’s easier to trust God when you know what is happening. When you don’t, you trust His wisdom and His sovereignty
- 5 Continue to **FEAR** the Lord Pro 16:6
6. Daily and constantly **OBEY** His voice Heb 5:8-9

*The more we get to **know** God, the more we will **love** Him, the more we love Him, the more we **trust** and **rely** on Him. Because of this we will **fear** the Lord and **obey** His voice, whether “in the light” or “in the dark” Live or die, we trust Him.*

Because, for all believers, the glory of the resurrection will be God’s explanation of all the Divine paradoxes and contradictions His people have experienced in their earthly walk.

Ps 91:1 “*He who dwells in the secret place*”

Mt 6:6 “*pray to your Father in the secret place*”