Do We Shine, or Do We Reflect? Paul Before Agrippa: Part 2 Acts 26:13-32 July 16, 2023

Acts 26:14 . . . why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

Hebrews 11: 25
... to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

Temporary happiness (with side effects)

Romans 12:1
... to present
your bodies a
living and holy
sacrifice,
acceptable to
God...

Joy, peace, from an internal wellspring.

There is no more miserable person than the believer living with the ongoing conviction of the Holy Spirit in his/her life.

Acts 26:18... to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God...

Follow the progression of God's Light to humanity: Genesis 1:1-3→Psalm 36:9→Isaiah 49:6→John1:4,5→ Luke 2:30-32→John 12:46→John 8:12 (speaking of discipleship)→Acts 13:46,47→Matthew 28:19 The LORD's Servant Messiah is designated the light-bearer to the Gentiles, then so is the Apostle Paul, and, by extension, that role goes to us.

Colossians 1:12-14 There are only two "kingdoms":

"Light; Kingdom of Jesus; Dominion of God"

→ Faith in Jesus, the Promised One, sent from Yahweh, God of the Bible, Creator of heavens and earth.

"Darkness; Dominion of Satan; Domain of darkness"

→Everything else:
The Cross plus Hard Work
Any god besides Yahweh/Jesus
Human philosophy
Naturalism/Atheism
Animism
Occult

Ephesians 5:1-17 The church cannot have an impact on the world unless she shines the Light of the Word, instead of reflecting the values of the world.