

Foundation of Faith: **Turn the Light On!**

June 5th, 2011

Why is darkness all around us?

...you shall be as gods, knowing (deciding for yourselves) good and evil.
Genesis 3:5

When people listen to "The Lie" it...

Dethrones God and deifies man's achievements
Exalts human reason as supreme
Trusts education and science to solve its problems
Believes that man is evolving into perfection
Replaces God's moral standards with situational ethics
Promotes sensual pleasure and instant gratification
Strives for a world utopia of prosperity and peace
Makes the State the sovereign dictator over everyone

Ephesians 5:6 Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins (immorality, covetousness, worship of false gods, etc.), for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him.

The Bible is "truth" worthy...

Psalm 33:4 For the word of the Lord holds true, and everything he does is worthy of our trust.

Revelation - Ezekiel 38:23 And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord.

Inspiration - 2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right.

Illumination - Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

How do you turn the light on?

– Deeply Love God's Word

Psalm 119:97 How I love your teachings! I think about them all day long.

1 Peter 1:23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

– Spiritually Understand God's Word

God makes me ABLE to understand the Bible.

1 Corinthians 2:12-15 And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. ¹³ When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. ¹⁴ But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths

from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others.

God makes me RESPONSIBLE for understanding the Bible.

1 John 2:20, 27 But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth. ²⁷ But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

– **Accurately Handle God's Word**

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

– **Personally Study God's Word**

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom...

– **Actively Live God's Word**

James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Reliance upon God + Individual responsibility =
Freedom/limited government/blessing

Forgetting God + Individual irresponsibility =
Slavery/State control/judgment

Ephesians 5:8-9 For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! ⁹ For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.