HOW TO WALK IN THE DARK Part 2



Let's Review

Spiritual metaphor of <u>darkness</u> and light (see John 8:12 and Ephesians 8:14)
You have been hand-<u>chosen</u> by God (vv. 1-2)
God has given you a <u>living</u> hope (v. 3)

Let's Review

You have an <u>incorruptible</u> inheritance in heaven (vv. 4-5) Your suffering is <u>temporary</u> (vv. 6-9)

You have what the prophets <u>predicted</u> and the angels <u>ponder</u> (vv. 10-12)

How do you punch holes in the darkness—live for Christ in a dark world?

I. Prepare Your Mind: Think Gird the loins of your <u>mind</u>—<u>think</u> clearly Modern term would be to roll up your sleeves Be sober—think clearly, be morally decisive Studies show that our subconscious minds govern our actions

How do you punch holes in the darkness—live for Christ in a dark world?

Proverbs 23:7

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he"
If you walk in the darkness in your mind, you walk in the darkness in real life
A Christian should set his or her hope on the coming of Jesus Christ—think hopefully

II. Shape Your <u>Conduct</u>: <u>Act</u>

Say <u>no</u> to the old paths, you say <u>yes</u> to your Father, and that <u>shapes</u> your conduct <u>III. Focus Your Will</u> Jesus is a <u>resident</u> in your life, not a tourist; He wants the <u>key</u> to every room

C.S. Lewis

"How little people know who think holiness is dull. When one meets the real thing, it is irresistible. Even if 10 percent of the world's population had it, would not the whole world be converted before the year's end?"
Part of our Christian growth is to remove the

dark spots and replace them with <u>holiness</u>

CONVICTION

Thomas Carlye

Conviction is worthless unless it is converted into conduct

Jerry bridges-The Pursuit of Holiness

The Holy Spirit makes us aware of our lack of holiness to stimulate us to deeper yearning and striving for holiness. But Satan will attempt to use the Holy Spirit's work to discourage us

CONVICTION

Billy Graham

The very ones whose social pressure cause yoou to comprdomise will despise you for it

They probably respect your convictions, and many of them wish they had the moral stamina to stand alone.

CONVICTION

Charles Stanley The convictions we live by. You tube Message given on March 19, 2016 "A conviction is a personal belief that you hold based on the Truth of God's Word."

Focus Your <u>Will</u>: <u>Choose</u>

Convictions = firmly held beliefs Be holy because God says so in the Bible Signature phrase of Billy Graham: "The Bible says" God's judgment is the light at the end of the tunnel

Focus Your <u>Will</u>: <u>Choose</u>

God's judgment is the light at the end of the tunnel

1 Corinthians 4:5

"Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in the darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each one will receive his praise from God." That day is coming.

Summary of Today's Message

If you want to punch holes in the darkness, think clearly, live holy, and choose decisively You will be the most enlightened person in the bunch