



How To Avoid Deception and Darkness

John 12:27-36

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth (John 12:35—KJV).

So Jesus said to them, “For a little while longer the Light is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes” (John 12:35—NASB).

Jesus said to the crowd, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going” (John 12:35—NRSV).

Between Palm Sunday and the day Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins, Jesus told the crowd that “the light is with you for a little longer.” Jesus used the word “light” to refer to himself. In John 14:6, Jesus used the divine name “I Am” and the word “truth” to refer to himself. Sometimes the word “light” is a substitute for “truth.” The word “walk” often means “practice.” Jesus warned the crowd that they needed to practice living and walking in the light, meaning the truth of His teachings and the truth of who He claimed to be: the Son of Man, the Messiah, the Son of God that His heavenly Father sent to save the world. In only a few days, the light was taken from the crowd. Those who had continued walking in darkness did not know where they were headed when they called out to Pilate, the Roman governor, “Crucify Him!” Of course, Jesus spoke spiritually. Today, when people hear the truth or “see the light” some choose to do what Jesus asserted in John 12:36, “Believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” When darkness descends, the children of light know the truth of the Scriptures, so they can recognize deception. Because they believe in Jesus, the darkness will not overtake them. They will follow Jesus and His teachings as the Holy Spirit shines the light of understanding and shows the way through the darkness.

Thinking Further

1. Since Jesus is the Son of God, why do you think His soul was troubled about His coming crucifixion and death?
2. Did Jesus pray to the Father that He would not die? If not, why not? How did Jesus pray to His Father?
3. What or who is the ruler of this world? What is his destiny?
4. What did Jesus mean when He said that He would be lifted up from the earth? What else might He have meant that He did not tell the crowd?
5. As the Son of Man, how did Jesus describe himself to the crowd?