

## God's Wonders In The Dark

Ps. 88:12,

There is some thing about darkness that makes the best people sometimes fear. And I guess it is because we can not see what there is near by us. This is a fact, as all of us know, in our physical realm.

But the Psalmist in this chapter of the psalms illustrates a fear in spiritual darkness. If there is a psalm any where that shows Sodom's sorrow and darkness it must be this one. It is a petition to be saved from death. He is in darkness and does not seem to see God's wonders in the dark, and he cries, "Shall Thy wonders be known in the dark?" That is, "will God raise me from the dead?"

It might seem odd that I should take this cry of a man who did not seem to have faith in the resurrection of the body and bring it before you. At the same time you will not blame this man for not believing in a revelation which he did not have. We of this age are not able to appreciate the darkness he lived in with Christ not yet come. Therefore we are just a bit unjust if we do not take up some of the dark melancholy ones of a brighted age and hold them in the sweet sunlight of the revelation of God in the love of Christ.

I God does shine forth in darkness. Let us notice how He shines forth in darkness of human ignorance. We make much of our knowledge to day and just by so far we have a good back ground for it. The struggles of the human race for these centuries have not been in vain.

yet what man knows is is vastly less than what we do not know. Carlyle said that science was merely a film on the sea of man's ignorance. It is comforting to know that God's wonders are there in the dark. To those who think at all it is quite evident that the earth and all life in it is not what it was in the distant past. There was no order, no world, no mineral, animal, or human life. Chaos and night held sway. Yet with in that awful dark God's wonders begin to grow. Order took possession of chaos. Light silvered the horrible darkness and germ-life began to stir and at once man was made literally by the hand of God.

Man was made a thinking being but did not take all the thinking. God thinks and is not dependent on human brain. The whole world is crammed with thinking. Every thing is alive although it may not know "I am I"

The farther man pioneers into matter the more amazing matter becomes. Discovery is the process of lifting the countless veils from the face of creation. As the veils fall away one by one the great mystery or mystery, thus as man unlocks his doors of ignorance, God's wonders are close at hand. They have been there all the time just waiting for man to enter the enchanted rooms and take them for his own uses.

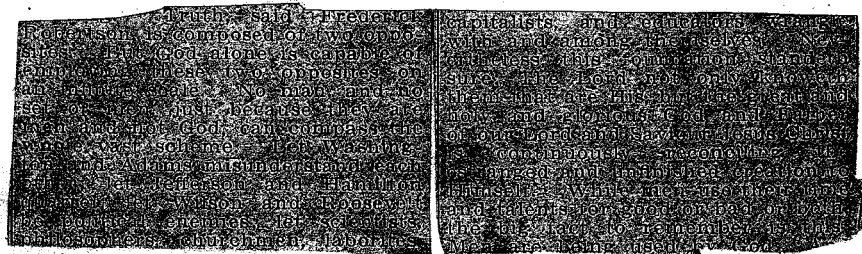
Back across the centuries man used a forked stick for a plow. Now he sits behind the gigantic tractor and sees ten furrows of soil roll beneath his feet. The ox cart has been replaced by the automobile, the train, and the aeroplane. Washington took 12 days to ride from Mt Vernon to New York to speak to the people but now a man is heard a 1000 miles away quicker than the people hear him in an auditorium. It is possible that some day we may stand in New Albany and see a friend in Europe.

This proves to us that we are in an unfinished world and you and I are born to help complete it. Each generation is just a coming, just a game in the unceasing literature of the ages.

II. God's wonder in the dark - misunderstanding. There is so much unhappiness, suffering, and tragedy in misunderstanding that bad men should

become engulfed in the black abysses of sin - it is not strange but that good men should be appalling. But we see it in Church, in science, philosophy, politics, and in the home life.

Where is our hope for this darkness? Can we find it in politics, commerce, or science? By no means. Our hope is in the living God who is now standing on that wave as we worship here we do not for one Philistine although our mode of worship is not the same as others about us.



The question for you and me is, "Am I living with God?" God will use you if you are consecrated. He may use you in a way undreamed of but He will use you. Constantinople fell into hands of Turks in 1453. Up to that time Europe traded with India, China, and Japan. Now they could not so Columbus looked for another route and found America.

III. God's wonders in suffering. As the material universe is held together by gravitation even so our spiritual universe is held in higher unity by the crimson cord of suffering. The goal of the S. universe is Christ like character. Christ suffered. No great and good thing comes without struggle and hard grinding.

The extreme darkness comes in your home as you find good like your loved one, yet you look around and see God's hand and feel His strength more plainly than before.



Father and mother and child on in a boat. The wicked parents are drowned but little boy is rescued, is placed in good home and becomes a great man.

But at the grave in that awful darkness of death God has shown that His love shines in all trials. The dead He raised Jesus. He can raise us.