

The Oldest Battle Light Against Darkness Good Against Evil

From the very beginning of time, the first problem God noticed was that it was hard to see: because “darkness was upon the face of the deep.” That prompted God to say, “Let there be light,” and “there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good.”

Then God saw the need for two essential lights: “the sun to rule by day, and the moon to rule by night.” With the creation of these came seasons and times: night time and day time, and the stage was set for the momentous drama of human life on earth. All of human history thereafter was and is set against these two antagonists.

God, in his omniscience, foresaw the conflicts to come, knowing also that the darkness of night dimly lit the stage for sin, and that the more light man had, the easier it was for him to contend with that sin in that eternal struggle “under the sun.”

The beautifully written book of *Ecclesiastes in the KJV*, depicts man’s struggles “under the *sun*”, and the problems man would face contending with the darkness within him. Many of our songs, poems stories and plays express this conflict: “Night and day, you are the one/ Only you beneath the moon/ And under the sun.” goes that old standard.

“Tonight, tonight, won’t be just any night/ To night there will be no morning sun.” Sings Maria in “West Side Story.” And in “Romeo and Juliet” where that song originated, Shakespeare inverts that theme, making the tragic deaths of Tybalt and Mercutio occur under a blazing and relentless sun. But the two young lovers die in the darkness of a tomb.

When JFK was murdered, his brother, Bobby, chose Juliet’s lament at Romeo’s death to highlight what the world lost in John’s murder: “Give me my Romeo,/ Cut him in little stars and hang them up/ And they shall make the face of Heaven so

fine,/That all the world will fall in love with Night/ And pay no homage to the garish sun.”

In “The Iliad,” Homer often described a hero’s death with this phrase, “And darkness flowed into his eyes.” Clearly, darkness is the bad guy. In Eden, after Adam and Eve’s eating of the forbidden fruit, their nakedness “came to Light.” and they hid themselves from God behind fig leaves.

Yet, as the Bible says, “God is light; In Him is no darkness at all.” (1 Jo 1”5.) And David in Psl 36,writes “the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee.” InLouis Armstrong’s lovely “What a Wonderful World” we hear “I see skies of Blue and clouds of White/ The bright blessed day/ The dark sacred night,/ And I say to myself/ “What a wonderful world.”

That fine song implies that Perhaps man carries the light or the darkness within himself, for one of the most convicting scriptures goes, “If the light that is in you be darkness, How great is that darkness.” (1 Jo 1:5.) Elsewhere the good book warns against believing “those who call evil good and good evil.”

There’s a lot of that in the media these days, especially among the politicians. They’d be wise to heed Hamlet’s warning, “Things hid in the dark, cry out for light.” and ’Twill out! For evil, though it has no tongue, will speak with most miraculous organ.” I think, very soon, many outrageous wrongs, will come to light, restoring truth, justice, and perfect peace. There will likely also be “wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.”

Psalm 35:5.KJV.

Gene Pinkney 25-02-14- for The Daily News