

He Was Manifested to Destroy the Works of Darkness – 07 24 05

- Joshua Daniel

In the first chapter of Mark, 21st verse: And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the Sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

And they were astonished at this doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

Saying, let us alone; what have we to do with you, thou Jesus of Nazareth? Art thou come to destroy us? I know you who thou art, the Holy one of god.

Identifying our lord! How do we identify him? As just another prophet? The devils have no difficulty identifying the lord. When people oppressed by evil spirits, the demons should know and will know I am in the wrong place, Alas, I am in the great danger. I remember addressing a meeting in which a demon possessed person screamed and began to run away. What was afflicting the person? She began to say, oh, I have come to the wrong place; I should not have come here. And of course the demons were cast out in the woman and was freed from those evil powers. I do not know how many people are troubled and possessed. You know there are so many deceased today which doctors say, hey we can't identify this decease, it is, you are medically fit as a fiddle but here is this person in great pain, unable to cope and yet they cannot diagnose anything wrong with the person. So some of these afflictions which are brought on by the works of the devil! What is the use of our calling ourselves as Christians? If Christ is the head and really he lives in you and me, what should we be doing? He was manifested to destroy the works of the devil. Unbelief is another of the strong works of the devil. And today I do not know what is happening in the industrial regions. Many years ago I was invited to lead special prayer meetings at a crusade and you know what they said hardly one percent of the population here will ever darken the door of a church. I felt very sad when I heard this. In the huge coir, singers began to come down and say to me, but you know this is my true condition and yet I am singing in the choir. One of the counselors came to me and said but this is how I am living, I need to ask my wife's pardon because my relationship is not right. And yet I am supposed to be a counselor! What can I counsel anybody? You know when we are travelling under a fake umbrella all the time,

we just get crooked and then the nation gets perverted in it's thinking. Has our light turned to darkness? Yes it has. We don't want the Ten Commandments! What is your quarrel with the Ten Commandments? Every form of correct system of justice and judgement in the world has to have the foundation of the Ten Commandments. If not all of them, most of them. What's wrong? Thou shalt commit adultery. Is that what you want your commandment to say? Pastor's daughter said to me, my dad hates me. I said what? Your dad hates you? No, I won't believe that. For a moment I told her, I was preaching in that church. She said, No, my dad hates me. I said why do you have to think that way? She said you know I am born of a short gun marriage. My parents had to get married. In those days babies were not disposed in the garbage cans like today. They felt, you know, we have to get married. And this poor girl is suffering as a teenager. So you want a law which says thou shalt commit adultery and put all your children under such stress and tension? Like some boys whom I have met, I have never seen my dad, they say he plays the organ in neighboring church or someplace but I have never seen my dad. You know the lord Jesus taught us the prayer, our father who art in heaven. Some boys will tell you, I don't relate to that word, father. And what kind of society do you have? The works of the darkness, he was manifested to destroy the works of darkness and yet, you know when we failed to take the light, when we failed to walk in the light, when we only sit like patronize Jesus, what have you? You have got a sham body which is called the church. The church is to be and should be a launching pad of mighty men of god. If you really god's word, there are young people today all over the world who will respond. They will not run after these pop guys who appear as meteors for a moment and then vanish. But today what kind of role models do they have? We have not provided them in the church with people who stand tall for righteousness. The works of the devil! You know the word of god becomes very cheap, very light. Understand how people can go and learn their music or their rhythm or their morals from the gurus. I simply can't understand. What does it mean? They are completely shattered young people. When righteousness is belittled then a nation sinks. How sad! But if you and I are agents of light, if you have the light, light is one of the things which hardly can be hidden. Now in those war days when there were air raid precautions you were supposed to screen off your windows so thoroughly that no gleam of light escapes. If it is light, it burns somehow. Nobody puts light where you wanted it to be entirely clocked. No one. How many people have rub shoulders with you today? May be you met the postman or maybe you were in a grocery, you pass through a checking counter or you were at the cashiers at the bank, a teller, how many people you met today. Was

there something in your countenance, some radiance, some good wish which you passed on to that person? Is there something about us that speaks of light? Do we spread the light? You know I am concerned with places where the light of the gospel has never gone. And I want to tell you, I draw a comparison, just a few months ago, we had a conference of students, some of those students have travelled one way three and half days. But the draw of the gospel, and who were these fellows? Animists, all kinds of people with no light whatever, some from terrorist background, if not actual terrorists, drawn to the word of god. Light, that's light. And you and I are called the light of the world. My goodness, why didn't Jesus think of another title to give us? You are the light of the world. A City set on a hill cannot be hid.