

Is your light, darkness or light?

But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great *is* that darkness! Mathew 6, 23

How is your eye?

Is it full of light or full of darkness?

Normally when we live under dim lights and when we are used to seeing in dim light we'll think that's how light will be.

Plato the great Greek philosopher, wrote in his book *Republic* about a cave analogy.

In it, he describes a group of people chained inside a dark cave, facing a wall. There is a fire behind their back and the forms which go past the opening of the cave are reflected in the walls before them. But they do not see the real parade or real light. He likens this group to those who have no higher knowledge, is philosophy.

It is actually the philosopher who by his ideas, opens their eyes and makes them realize that they have been seeing only shadows. But at first they are so offended that all their imagination about the shadow on the wall is now a sham. Later on when they climb out of the cave they are so amazed to see things as they are in sunlight.

Much like these chained prisoners in a dark cave, most of us live in darkness, make meanings out of darkness and think that is light.

This is precisely the reason why Jesus said, how sad it will be when what you think is light in your life is in fact, darkness.

Today I read a short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Minister's Black Veil* (Read it in <http://www.eldritchpress.org/nh/mbv.html> when you have time)

It is a very strange story where all of a sudden a pastor of a village starts wearing a black veil over his face. The whole village is deeply unsettled. He preaches, conducts weddings, funerals all with the black veil in place. People speculate thousand reasons. Some said he must have committed a grievous error and so he does not want to look at the world. After many many years the time for his death came very near. A young pastor near his bed, wanted to remove this veil and with his last energy he holds on to this veil over his face and says, "when man does not

vainly shrink from the eye of his Creator, loathsomely treasuring up the secret of his sin; then deem me a monster, for the symbol beneath which I have lived, and die! I look around me, and, lo! on every visage a Black Veil!"

The Pastor says that every man has a secret sin inside and he wears it as a symbol outside and he wants to be buried with the veil on his face.

Like his novel , *The Scarlet Letter* this story also has a deep symbolism.

All the people of the village speculated about the different sins the minister would have committed, little realizing that the minister through his black veil is looking at each of them with a black veil over their faces.

Sometimes we may wear a black veil inside our souls and think we can hide our sinful corner before the eyes of God.

But it is impossible to hide our lusts, greed, sins done in darkness behind a black veil and try to put a shining face before the congregation.

God sees our hearts. We cannot have a compartment for dark deeds and then justify ourselves that somehow I can compensate my sins with the ministry I do.

This will be very very dangerous for your soul. God cannot be deceived and God is not mocked. Beware of hiding secret sins in your heart. When you get used to that, then that darkness will become your light.

The tragedy of a Christian will be when s/he forgets the Light of life which gave new life and slowly readjusts to darkness as their lights.

When your darkness becomes your light then, HOW GREAT WILL BE THAT DARKNESS?

Check your hearts with the Light of God's word. See whatever and wherever you have compromised. These will slowly rob God's glory from your heart.

Let us ask the Lord to search our hearts and burn away the black veils of our soul, so that His Light may shine in our hearts with all its Glory.

Lord show us your glory Lord, so we may know the true Light. Chase away the darkness which we believe to be light. May your light shine on us Lord. May your glory fall upon us. Come Lord Jesus . Come dwell inside our hearts once again.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmribhgRhJ0&feature=related>