

In His light

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Psalm 36:9

This psalm reveals the vast contrast between the heart devoid of the light of the Lord and the one that has been opened by His light. The enlightened heart of the psalmist David views the wicked life that is still in darkness as described in the first four verses. The transgression of the wicked makes it obvious to the enlightened that there is no fear of God before his eyes. And the continued description insinuates that the wicked heart naturally continues in sin and self-flattery without even realizing it. In verse five, David's view turns upon the hinge of God's mercy, perhaps as he realizes that what he has been observing was typical of his own unregenerate heart, before it was changed only by the light of God's righteousness. Only when His light shines in our dark hearts can these truths of his faithfulness, judgments, and lovingkindness become obvious, as well as the evil of our own sin be revealed. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face (presence) of Jesus Christ" (II Corinthians 4:6). When that shining light transforms our minds, it brings with it the fountain of life into our souls, a well of water springing up into everlasting life (John 4:14). Then is the life transformed by His light. But before the light and life came, the darkness was our natural existence. How important for us to remember that "such were some of you," and, when we see that darkness walking about us, instead of just shouting at the darkness, we live and share the message of that merciful light. Then, as we walk in the light as He is in the light, we influence others to see the light of His life, which teaches the heart to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. In that light will we all together exclaim "How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God!"

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