**These Perilous Times**

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**“Jesus-Our Guiding Light”**

When I was 14 years old, I had the unique privilege of attending Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market Virginia. I attended school in the morning and worked on numerous farms in the area, in the afternoon to help my parents with the cost of tuition. It was a blessing to attend school in such a beautiful environment. The Shenandoah River was just a stone’s throw away and surrounded by the Blue Ridge Mountains, so there was plenty of nature for me, an outdoor enthusiast to observe and explore.

While attending SVA I was introduced to spelunking (caving) which consequently absorbed much of my free time. I often explored one of my three favorite caves; “Haystack Cave,” “Railroad Cave,” or “Tractor & Trailer Cave.” Having the right equipment is vital to enjoying the caving experience. The most important piece of equipment is a reliable light source because non-commercial caves are pitch dark. Secondly, a strong rope is essential for climbing, repelling and to anchor and maintain contact with the cave’s entrance and fellow spelunkers. Without a reliable light source, caving can be extremely dangerous and even deadly. For example, one of the caves I explored had narrow shafts or ledges that dropped over 75 feet!

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

In this sin-darkened world in which we are now living there are many dangerous obstacles that our adversary the devil uses to snuff out our spiritual light, causing us to stumble in darkness. It is essential to have a reliable “Light Source” to stay in contact with Jesus! The good news is, if we trust Jesus, and “His Word,” our way will always be illuminated with present truth! We will not walk in the darkness of the devil’s counterfeits!

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

Psalms 119:105 KJV

“For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.”

Psalm 36:9 NKJV

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

“Satan is striving to gain every advantage... Disguised as an *angel of light* *he will walk the earth as a wonder-worker* (See also I Cor. 11:13-15). *In beautiful language he will present lofty sentiments; good words will be spoken by him and good deeds performed*. *Christ will be personified*… The sick will be healed before us. Miracles will be performed in our sight. Are we prepared for the trial that awaits us when the lying wonders of Satan shall be more fully exhibited (Italics supplied) ? [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Light from God’s Word**

“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.” John 1:4, 5 NKJV

“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, *I am the Light of the world. He who* *follows Me shall not walk in darkness*, but have the light of life.” John 8:12 NKJV (Italics Supplied)

“I am come a Light into the world, that whosoever believeth on Me should not abide in darkness.” John 13:46 KJV

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

“Live up to every ray of light that you have received. Your eternal interests are involved here, and that is why I say, ‘cherish every ray of light.’” [[2]](#footnote-2)

“Through the tender mercy of God with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us; to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet in the way of peace.” Luke 1:75 NKJV

**More Good News**

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as

children of light.” Ephesians 5:8 NKJV



1. E. G. White. Last Day Events, p. 166. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. E. G. White. Evangelism, p. 243. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)