

“This present darkness....”

Make a list of things that you believe can contribute to this months writing, “this present darkness.” Your list may be things that are of local, national or international concern to you. Check your list twice. Stop. Now, compare your list to mine. My list is at the bottom of this writing.

How did your list compare to mine? A couple of similarities? Some differences? At times could you describe our current living conditions in this world as gloomy times? I have felt this way about world situations I find myself trying to understand. I have found myself arriving at this point in time for many reasons. One could probably make a list of reasons why we sometimes believe we are living in more difficult times. These times often appear to be more gloomy than light.

From a fiction point of view one can come up with many reasons for our current political, economic, and social state of affairs. From a fiction point of view television and books offer many good examples of a “darkness” that might be a part of ones life. Actually, there are some very good examples of this on television that I do not have a desire to watch. The examples that bother me the most are those that seem to cross an invisible line. An invisible line between darkness and light. I believe that if one crosses such a line it is harder to come back from the dark into the light. Please do not misunderstand. I like good science fiction as well as anyone else. Star Trek and Star Wars just can’t be beat. But how far does one go, from a fiction point of view, until one knows they have crossed this line that is hard to come back from? Where do we draw the line in the sand between darkness and light?

From a reality point of view one can come up with many reasons for our current political, economic and social state of affairs. Examples of this can also be gleaned from television as well as books. Being a good judge about our ideas, compared to all the ideas that can be thrust ones way via television and books, is not an easy thing to accomplish. But, being able to judge / discern what you believe as compared to what others believe must be accomplished or one might find themselves crossing a line drawn by someone else that we do not totally agree with. So, where is that line drawn between us and them, between darkness and light? Where is the line between the “gloom” of current times and the “light”?

Maybe the real line separating fiction and reality is so fine it is hard to recognize for some people. Be very careful. Have you ever thought that you had a strong feeling that something bad was either going to happen or had already happened? Have you ever had a feeling that things were just not right or that there was a presence about you that was something to be feared? Have you ever had a strong feeling that there was something good that was going to happen in your life? Have you ever had that feeling that you were receiving comfort or protection from a source you could not easily describe? I have. This takes place everyday to people like you and I. Some tend to want to ignore it. I prefer to recognize it and deal with it. In our list that we made earlier did you have

something in that list that refers to anything that is bad or evil? I firmly believe that evil exists and would love to take over the goodness and godliness of people and their daily lives. Evil is depicted quite well in fiction but remember.....evil is real and I can only think that ones present darkness can only be attributed to evil. This is where the line is drawn. Ever felt the presence of goodness and holiness and a need to pray for a person, a group of people, your family, your community, your nation.....Do it! Have you ever had that feeling of fear or a presence of evil? Pray more! Your prayers are needed. Prayers along with the written word of God are essential components necessary in winning this war that pits people of God against the forces of evil.

“The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it”. (John 1:5)

“I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of the world. (John 8:12)

My List

1. Nuclear threat that Iran poses to Israel and the world.
2. People starving in many parts of this world.
3. More of a laissez-faire attitude toward abortion.
4. Value of human life going down based day to day murder rates.
5. More concessions being made toward things that our parents would have never conceded to.
6. Compromise becoming the standard as opposed to moral and ethical truth.
7. It is easier to cheat on the job than to just do the job.

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