

“The Condition Of Our Dwelling”

By Mrs. Sojourner

One of the great comfort scriptures, Psalm 91, starts out:

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ^[a] Psalm 91:1NIV

What is the condition of our spiritual dwellings? How and where we dwell affects greatly our ability to fulfill our role in the visions God has given us to do.

If our dwelling is infested with fear and cluttered with doubt, it can be quite challenging to get anything productive done for God’s kingdom because we’d be always thinking about the fear inside the walls and tripping over the doubts that are stacked in the walkways, on the stairs, on the tables, chairs—everywhere. A dwelling cluttered with such things contains no peace. What is to be done to fix a dwelling like the one just described?

Psalm 91 addresses dwelling upkeep. See verses 9-10:

If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who



is my refuge- then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. (NIV)

This passage reminds us that God is our protector. Make the Lord your dwelling. Confess your faith and trust in God

(see vs. 2) openly and often. The more we trust Him, the more the infestation of fear will be driven out of the walls. Trusting God and his promises to us will also help us not trip over stacks of doubts.

Dwelling in the secret place involves living in God’s peace. Peace will help us identify and remove the piles of doubt so we can easily move through our physical and spiritual dwellings. In worship and with peace we can then walk out the visions God has given us.

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...with The Sojourner

“Keep The Light On” (Teaching Sketch)

Ephesians 4: 17-32 (NIV)



Darkness was on the face of the earth when God said, “Let there be light.” The same is true of an individual until God exposes that person to the spiritual light of restoration in Jesus the Christ.

Many have heard me say in the past that the natural is a reflection of the spiritual. This is again shown in the story of the creation or recreation as found in the First Book of Moses, Genesis, found in the Bible.

Soon after God moved over the face of the earth, calling things that were not as though they were, we see the enemy, Satan, come on the scene. He claimed to be bringing light in the form of knowledge to mankind as he enticed mankind with the lie that had been his own downfall.

With the act of disobedience, on the part of seduced mankind, came spiritual darkness and mankind was floundering without regular daily contact

with God the Creator in whose likeness and image mankind had been fashioned to function.

Not as Gentiles

The Apostle Paul admonishes us not to be as those still living in darkness—the Gentiles (heathen).

The person without Christ is a person who is floundering. This person is much like a person who does not know how to swim flailing about in the water (sea of life) unable to dislodge themselves from their predicament.

It is for this reason that we are to go out with our testimony of how the Gospel of Light has touched our lives and it is available to all who will call out to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Futile Thinking

Paul says the ways of the Gentiles are futile. It is only when we realize that leaning to our own understanding/flailing will not get us to the

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Scripture:

Ephesians 4:17-32 (NIV)

Living as Children of Light

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. ²⁰ You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. ²¹ Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made^[a] new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶ "In your anger do not sin"^[b]. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not

[a]
anane
an-an-
neh-o'-o
; to *re-
novate*, that
is, *re-
form*:—
renew

[b]
Psalm 4:4
In your
anger do
not sin;
when you
are on
your
beds,
search
your
hearts
and be
silent.

Notes:

give the devil a foothold. ²⁸ He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. ²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

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safety of the spiritual shore and accept the work of Jesus on the cross, will we be safe.

Putting Off the Old

When what you are doing does not work then change what you are doing. If a life is being destroyed by the loss of all sensitivity to God, it is time to abandon the old unrenewed self to Christ and find one's self indeed.

Putting on the New

You and I must put on the new self. Paul said, “created to be like God in true righteousness (*justification*) and holiness (*piety*).” Putting on the new can only come with the power of the Holy Spirit of God living in us. We cannot, on our own, do or accomplish anything spiritually without the same Spirit, that raised us from the dead, dwelling in us. We must live in the light to let the light within us shine and let there be light in the earth!

A person with an
experience is
never at the mercy
of a person with an
argument.

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during “Praise & Worship” (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

