

Outer Darkness,

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Here is a basic repeat of my article on Outer Darkness and a passage from The Final Quest by Rick Joyner where he has a vision of outer darkness.

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(Mat 8:12 KJV) But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. This verse plainly says that the children of the kingdom are the ones that will be cast into outer darkness. There is no mention of people who are not part of the kingdom being in outer darkness.

(Mat 22:11-13 NKJV) "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. {12} "So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. {13} "Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Here again, the verse is talking about a man, who at least knew about the wedding feast, however, he did not have on a wedding garment. It is similar to the story of the five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins. They all knew about the wedding feast of the lamb, but some of them did not have enough oil. They were not prepared, as this man was not prepared.

(Mat 25:14 NKJV) "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.

(Mat 25:27-30 NKJV) 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. {28} 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. {29} 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. {30} 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

This servant (you and me as Christians) disobeyed his master (Jesus) and out of fear refused to invest the talent given to him by his master. Because he did this, the talent he had been given was taken away from him and given to the one with the most talents and the disobedient servant was cast into outer darkness.

(Mat 24:45-51 NKJV) "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? {46} "Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. {47} "Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. {48} "But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' {49} "and

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begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, {50} "the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, {51} "and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

These verses tell you what will happen to people who are leaders in the kingdom of God. It does not specifically say outer darkness, however, it does say weeping and gnashing of teeth which seems to always be related to outer darkness.

(Rev 3:15-21 NKJV) "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. {16} "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. {17} "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'; and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked; {18} "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. {19} "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. {20}

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. {21} "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

We are to be zealous and repent if we do not want to be thrown into outer darkness. It also says we are to buy gold refined in the fire (to me that is the mature Christian who has been tried by fire). anoint your eyes with eye salve (let the Holy Spirit convict you of your sins so you can repent). As many as I love I rebuke and chasten (Let God through the Holy Spirit rebuke, reveal, and chasten you so you will not be thrown into outer darkness)

As I was studying about outer darkness, I ask the Lord to take me to outer darkness so I could see what it was like. One day He took me to outer darkness. It was so dark you could not see your hand in front of your face. It was a complete absence of light. I immediately realized that all deception and delusion was completely gone. There was only total reality of who I was, why I was there and the only thing I could do, or anyone else, was repent. I could hear the weeping and gnashing of teeth that is spoken of in the scriptures. People were genuinely sorry for and repenting of the sins they had committed on earth. No excuses were being made. It was deep, heart-sobbing repentance with great sorrow for disobeying God and sinning as they had. They were asking for forgiveness for their sins and for the things they had done to other people.

To say that it was a sobering experience is an understatement. It makes you want to be shown all your sins here on earth so you can repent before the Father and receive his forgiveness without having to go into outer darkness. It makes you want to forgive all the people that you think have wronged you, hurt you, rejected you, or taken advantage of you. It makes you want to surrender your will to the Will of the Father and only do his will.

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If you are not convinced that Christians will go into outer darkness, then ask the Father to take you to outer darkness so you can experience what it is really like. I will guarantee that if you go you will come back a changed person. Nothing in your life will ever be the same.

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OUTER DARKNESS AS DESCRIBED BY RICK JOYNER

Rick Joyner had a vision of outer darkness in his book, "The final Quest". Here is a description of it.

Rick had been in the room of Salvation, and was enjoying it greatly. However, the angel that was with him told him that he must leave this room and enter into the judgment seat of Christ. Before he could get to the judgment seat of Christ, he had to go through what I describe OUTER DARKNESS. Here is his description from the book.

(Rick)"What's the matter? Aren't you coming?" I demanded. (The angels)"Where you are going now you must go alone. We will be waiting for you on the other side."

Without responding, I turned and started walking before I could change my mind. Somehow I knew that it was right that I not put my security in the company of angels. As I walked into the DARKNESS I heard the eagle's last words, "After this you will not have your trust in anyone else, even yourself, but only in the Lord."

I was in the most frightening DARKNESS I had ever experienced. To take each step became a terrible battle with fear. Soon, I began to think that I had stepped into hell itself. Finally I decided to retreat, but when I turned to go back I could not see anything. The door was closed and I could not even see where it was located. I started to feel that everything that had happened to me, and everything that had been said to me by the eagles and the angels had been a ruse to entrap me in this hell. I had been deceived!

I cried to the Lord to forgive me, and to help me. Immediately I began to see Him on the cross, just as when I had laid my hand on the red stone in the chamber I had just left. Again, I beheld the darkness of His soul as He stood alone bearing the sin of the world. In that chamber this had been a

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terrible darkness to behold, but now it was a light. I resolved that I had to go on, fixing my mind on Him. As I did, with each step peace began to grow in my heart, and it became easier rather than harder as it had been just a few minutes earlier.

Soon I was not even aware of the dark, and I no longer felt cold. Then I started to see a dim light. Gradually it became a glorious light. Then it became so wonderful that I felt that I was entering to heaven itself. The glory increased with every step. I wondered how anything this wonderful could have an entrance so dark and foreboding. Now I was so enjoying every step. Then the path opened into a hall so large that I did not think the earth itself could contain it. The beauty of it could not even be imagined by any reference to human architecture. This exceeded the wonder of anything I had yet experienced. Including the garden, or the chamber that held the treasures of salvation. I was, at this point, just as overwhelmed with joy and beauty as I had previously been overwhelmed by the darkness and fear just minutes before. I then understood that every time I had experienced great pain or darkness of soul, it had been followed by a much greater revelation of glory and peace.

At the far end was the Source of the glory that was emanating from everything else in the room. I know that it was the Lord, Himself, and through I had now seen Him many times, I began to be a little bit afraid as I walked toward Him.

However, this fear was a holy fear that only magnified the great joy and peace that I also felt. I know that the judgment seat of Christ was a source of more security than I had ever experienced, but at the same time, it was the source of a greater, but more pure, fear.

I did not notice how great the distance was to the throne. It was so wonderful to just walk here that I did not care if it took me a thousand years to get here. In earthly terms, it did take me a very long time. In one sense I felt that it was a days, and in another, years. But somehow earthly time had no relevance here. [It is interesting that the Lord revealed to me that many Christians would be in outer darkness for a thousand years during the millennial reign of Christ. Only over comers as spoken about in Revelations 2 and 3 will be allowed to rule and reign with Christ. It is obvious that not all Christians are over comers. If they were, these passages would not be in The Bible]

My eyes were so fixed on the glory of the Lord that I walked a long time before I noticed that I was passing multitudes of people who were standing in ranks to my left (there were just as many to my right, but they were so far away that I could not see them until I reached the throne). As I looked at them I had to stop. They were dazzling, more regal than anyone I had ever seen. Their countenance was captivating. Never had such peace and confidence graced a human face. Each one was beautiful beyond any earthly comparison. As I turned toward those who were close to me they bowed in a greeting as though they recognized me.

"How is it that you know me?" I asked, surprised at my own boldness to ask them a question.

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"You are one of the saints fighting who fought in the last battle," a man close by responded.

"Everyone here knows you, as well as all of those who are now fighting on the earth. We are the saints who have served the Lord in the generations before you. We are the great cloud of witnesses who have been given the right to behold the last battle. We know all of you, and we see all that you do."

To my surprise, I recognized someone I had known on earth, He had been a faithful believer, but I did not think he had ever done anything of significance. He was so unattractive physically on earth that it made him shy. Here he had the same features, but was somehow more handsome than any person I had known on the earth. He stepped up to me with an assurance and dignity that I had never seen before in him, or in any man.

"Heaven is much greater than we could have dreamed while on earth," he began. "This room is but the threshold of realms of glory that are far beyond the ability we had to comprehend. It is also true that the second death is much more terrible than we understood. Neither heaven nor hell are like we thought they were. If I had known on earth what I know here I would not have lived the way that I did. You are greatly blessed to have come here before you have died," he said, looking at my garments.

I then looked at myself, I still had the old mantle of humility on, and the armor was still under it. I felt both foul and crude standing before those who were so glorious. I began to think that I was in serious trouble if I was planning to appear before the Lord like this. Like the eagles, my old acquaintance could understand my thoughts, and he replied to them.

"Those who come here wearing the mantle have nothing to fear. That mantle is the highest rank of honor and it is why they all bowed to you while you passed."

I did not notice anyone bowing to me," I replied, a bit disconcerted. "In fact, I didn't even notice anyone until just now."

"It is not improper," he continued. "Here we show each other the respect that is due. Even the angels serve us here, but only our God and His Christ are worshiped. There is a marked difference between honoring one another in love, and worshiping them. If we had understood this on earth, we would have treated others very differently. It is here, in the light of His glory, that we can fully perceive and understand one another, and therefore properly relate to each other."

I was still ashamed. I had to restrain myself to keep from bowing to them, while at the same time wanting to hide myself because I felt so lowly. Then I began lamenting to fact that my thoughts here were just as foolish as they were on the earth, and here everyone knew them! I felt both stained and stupid standing before these who were so awesome and pure. Again my old acquaintance responded to these thoughts.

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"We have our incorruptible bodies now, and you do not. Our minds are not longer hindered by sin. We are therefore able to comprehend many times what ever the greatest earthly mind can fathom, and we sill spend eternity growing in our ability to understand. This is so that we can know the Father, and understand the glory of His creation. On earth, you cannot even begin to understand what the least of these here knows, and we are the least of those here."

"How could you be the least?" I asked with disbelief. "There is an aristocracy of sorts here. The rewards for our earthly lives are the eternal positions that we will have forever. This great multitude are those who the Lord called 'foolish virgins.' We knew the Lord, and trusted in His cross for our salvation, but we did not really live for Him, but for ourselves. We did not keep our vessels filled with the oil of the Holy Spirit. We have eternal life, but we wasted our lives on earth." I was really surprised by this, but I also knew that no one could lie in that place.

"The foolish virgins gnashed their teeth in the OUTER DARKNESS," I protested.

"And that we did. The grief that we experienced when we understood how we had so wasted our lives was beyond any grief possible on earth. The DARKNESS of that grief can only be understood by those who experienced it. Such DARKNESS is magnified when it is revealed next to the glory of the One we failed. You are standing now among the lowest rank in heaven. There is no greater folly than to know the great salvation of God, but to then go on living for yourself. To come here and learn the reality of that is a grief beyond what an earthly soul can experience. We are those who suffered this OUTER DARKNESS because of this greatest of follies."

I was still incredulous. "But you are more glorious and full of more joy and peace than I even imagined, even for those in heaven. I do not feel any remorse in you, and yet I know that here you cannot lie. This does not make sense to me."

Looking at me straight in the eyes, he continued, "The Lord also loves us with a love greater than you can yet understand. Before His judgment seat I tasted the greatest DARKNESS of soul and remorse that can be experienced. Though here we do not measure time as you do, it seemed to last for as long as my life on earth had lasted. All of my sins and follies of which I had not repented passed before me, and before all who are here. [This is what God showed me was happening to the people in outer darkness] You cannot understand the grief of this until you have experienced it. I felt that I was in the deepest dungeon of hell, even as I stood before the glory of the Lord. He was resolute until my life had been completely reviewed. When I said I was sorry and asked for the mercy of His cross, He wiped away my tears and took away the darkness. [Again, what the Lord told me would happen even though I did not see this happen to anyone while I was in outer darkness] I no longer feel the bitterness that I knew as I stood before Him, but I remember it. Only here can you remember such things without continuing to feel the pain. A moment in the lower part of heaven is much greater than a thousand years of the highest life on earth. Now my mourning at my folly has been turned into joy, and I know that I will know joy forever, even if I am in the lowest place in heaven.

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Looking at me intently, my former acquaintance continued. "You are not here to just gain understanding, but to experience and be changed. The next level of rank here is many times greater than what we have. Each level after is that much greater than the previous one. It is not just that each level has an even more glorious spiritual body, but that each level is closer to the throne room where all of the glory comes. Even so, I no longer feel the grief of my failure. I really deserve nothing. I am here by grace alone, and I am so thankful for what I have. He is so worthy to be loved, I could be doing many wondrous things now in the different realms of heaven, but I would rather stay here and just behold His glory, even if I am on the outer fringe.

The Final Quest

By Rick Joyner

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