

# In the Bible Darkness Signifies Evil, Judgment, Curse, and the Day of the Lord

## Darkness as Evil

**Genesis 1:3-4** <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the **darkness**.<sup>1</sup>

**Job 24:15-16** <sup>15</sup> The eye of the adulterer also waits for the twilight, saying, 'No eye will see me'; and he veils his face. <sup>16</sup> In the **dark** they dig through houses; by day they shut themselves up; they do not know the light.

**Job 29:1-3** And Job again took up his discourse, and said: <sup>2</sup> "Oh, that I were as in the months of old, as in the days when God watched over me, <sup>3</sup> when his lamp shone upon my head, and by his light I walked through **darkness**,

**Job 34:21-22** "For his eyes are on the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps. <sup>22</sup> There is no gloom or deep **darkness** where evildoers may hide themselves.

**Psalms 112:4** Light dawns in the **darkness** for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

**Proverbs 2:12-14** <sup>12</sup> delivering you from the way of evil, from men of perverted speech, <sup>13</sup> who forsake the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of **darkness**, <sup>14</sup> who rejoice in doing evil and delight in the perverseness of evil,

**Isaiah 5:20** Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put **darkness** for light and light for darkness,

**Isaiah 9:2** The people who walked in **darkness** have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep **darkness**, on them has light shined.

**Isaiah 42:6-7** "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in **darkness**.

**Isaiah 45:7** I form light and create **darkness**, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.

**Isaiah 49:8-9** <sup>8</sup> Thus says the LORD: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, <sup>9</sup> saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in **darkness**, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

**Isaiah 58:10** if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the **darkness** and your gloom be as the noonday.

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<sup>1</sup> God did not see the darkness as good.

**Isaiah 60:2** For behold, **darkness** shall cover the earth, and thick **darkness** the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**Ezekiel 8:12** Then he said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the **dark**, each in his room of pictures? For they say, 'The LORD does not see us, the LORD has forsaken the land.'"

**Matthew 4:16** the people dwelling in **darkness** have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

**Matthew 6:23** but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of **darkness**. If then the light in you is **darkness**, how great is the **darkness**

**Luke 1:78-79** because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high<sup>79</sup> to give light to those who sit in **darkness** and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Luke 11:35** Therefore be careful lest the light in you be **darkness**

**Luke 22:53** When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of **darkness**.

**John 1:5** The light shines in the **darkness**, and the **darkness** has not overcome it.

**John 3:19** And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the **darkness** rather than the light because their deeds were evil.

**John 8:12** Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in **darkness**, but will have the light of life."

**John 12:35** So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest **darkness** overtake you. The one who walks in the **darkness** does not know where he is going.

**John 12:46** I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in **darkness**.

**Acts 26:18** to open their eyes, so that they may turn from **darkness** to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

**Romans 13:12** The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of **darkness** and put on the armor of light.

**1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in **darkness** and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

**2 Corinthians 4:6** For God, who said, "Let light shine out of **darkness**," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with **darkness**?

**Ephesians 5:8-11** for at one time you were **darkness**, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup> and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of **darkness**, but instead expose them.

**Ephesians 6:12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present **darkness**, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

**Colossians 1:13** He has delivered us from the domain of **darkness** and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

**1 Thessalonians 5:4-5** But you are not in **darkness**, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the **darkness**.

**1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of **darkness** into his marvelous light.

**1 John 1:5-6** This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no **darkness** at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in **darkness**, we lie and do not practice the truth.

**1 John 2:8-11** At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the **darkness** is passing away and the true light is already shining. <sup>9</sup> Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in **darkness**. <sup>10</sup> Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. <sup>11</sup> But whoever hates his brother is in the **darkness** and walks in the **darkness**, and does not know where he is going, because the **darkness** has blinded his eyes

## **Darkness as Judgment**

**Exodus 10:14-15** The locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled on the whole country of Egypt, such a dense swarm of locusts as had never been before, nor ever will be again. <sup>15</sup> They covered the face of the whole land, so that the land **was darkened**, and they ate all the plants in the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Not a green thing remained, neither tree nor plant of the field, through all the land of Egypt.

**Exodus 10:21-22** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be **darkness** over the land of Egypt, a **darkness** to be felt." <sup>22</sup> So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was pitch **darkness** in all the land of Egypt three days..

**1 Samuel 2:9** "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in **darkness**, for not by might shall a man prevail.

**Job 5:13-14** He catches the wise in their own craftiness, and the schemes of the wily are brought to a quick end. <sup>14</sup> They meet with **darkness** in the daytime and grope at noonday as in the night.

**Job 10:20-22** Are not my days few? Then cease, and leave me alone, that I may find a little cheer <sup>21</sup> before I go- and I shall not return- to the land of **darkness** and deep shadow, <sup>22</sup> the land of gloom like thick **darkness**, like deep shadow without any order, where light is as thick **darkness**."

**Job 12:24-25** He takes away understanding from the chiefs of the people of the earth and makes them wander in a pathless waste. <sup>25</sup> They grope in the **dark** without light, and he makes them stagger like a drunken man.

**Job 15:22-23** He does not believe that he will return out of **darkness**, and he is marked for the sword. <sup>23</sup> He wanders abroad for bread, saying, 'Where is it?' He knows that a day of **darkness** is ready at his hand;

**Job 15:30** he will not depart from **darkness**; the flame will dry up his shoots, and by the breath of his mouth he will depart.

**Job 17:12-13** <sup>12</sup> They make night into day; 'The light,' they say, 'is near to the **darkness**.' <sup>13</sup> If I hope for Sheol as my house, if I make my bed in **darkness**,

**Job 18:5-6** "Indeed, the light of the wicked is put out, and the flame of his fire does not shine. <sup>6</sup> The light is **dark** in his tent, and his lamp above him is put out.

**Job 18:18** He is thrust from light into **darkness**, and driven out of the world.

**Job 20:26** Utter **darkness** is laid up for his treasures; a fire not fanned will devour him; what is left in his tent will be consumed.

**Psalms 105:28** He sent **darkness**, and made the land **dark**;

**Psalms 107:10-14** Some sat in **darkness** and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons, <sup>11</sup> for they had rebelled against the words of God, and spurned the counsel of the Most High. <sup>12</sup> So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help. <sup>13</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. <sup>14</sup> He brought them out of **darkness** and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

**Proverbs 20:20** <sup>20</sup> If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter **darkness**.

**Ecclesiastes 2:14** The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in **darkness**. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them.

**Isaiah 59:1-9** Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; <sup>2</sup> but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear <sup>9</sup> Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, **darkness**, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

**Jeremiah 13:16** Give glory to the LORD your God before he brings **darkness**, before your feet stumble on the twilight mountains, and while you look for light he turns it into gloom and makes it deep **darkness**.

**Lamentations 3:1-2** I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath; <sup>2</sup> he has driven and brought me into **darkness** without any light;

**Lamentations 4:7-8** Her princes were purer than snow, whiter than milk; their bodies were more ruddy than coral, the beauty of their form was like sapphire. <sup>8</sup> Now their face **is blacker** than soot; they are not recognized in the streets; their skin has shriveled on their bones; it has become as dry as wood.

**Ezekiel 30:18** At Tehaphnehes the day **shall be dark**, when I break there the yoke bars of Egypt, and her proud might shall come to an end in her; she shall be covered by a cloud, and her daughters shall go into captivity.

**Ezekiel 32:7-8** When I blot you out, I will cover the heavens and make their stars **dark**; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give its light. <sup>8</sup> All the bright lights of heaven will I make **dark** over you, and put **darkness** on your land, declares the Lord GOD.

**Micah 3:5-6** Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who lead my people astray, who cry "Peace" when they have something to eat, but declare war against him who puts nothing into their mouths. <sup>6</sup> Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision, and **darkness** to you, without divination. The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day **shall be black** over them;

**Nahum 1:8** But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into **darkness**.

**Matthew 8:12** while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer **darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Matthew 22:13** Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer **darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**Matthew 25:30** And cast the worthless servant into the outer **darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Acts 13:9-10** But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and **darkness** fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand.

**Romans 1:21** For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts **were darkened**.

**Romans 11:8-10** as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day." <sup>9</sup> And David says, "Let their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them; <sup>10</sup> let their eyes **be darkened** so that they cannot see, and bend their backs forever."

**Ephesians 4:18** **They are darkened** in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

**2 Peter 2:17** These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter **darkness** has been reserved.

**Jude 12-13** These are blemishes on your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, looking after themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted;

<sup>13</sup> wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter **darkness** has been reserved forever.

**Revelation 9:2** He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the **air were darkened** with the smoke from the shaft.

### **Darkness as a Curse**

**Job 3:1-9** After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. <sup>2</sup> And Job said: <sup>3</sup> "Let the day perish on which I was born, and the night that said, 'A man is conceived.' <sup>4</sup> Let that day be **darkness!** May God above not seek it, nor light shine upon it. <sup>5</sup> Let gloom and deep **darkness** claim it. Let clouds dwell upon it; let the **blackness** of the day terrify it. <sup>6</sup> That night- let thick **darkness** seize it! Let it not rejoice among the days of the year; let it not come into the number of the months. <sup>9</sup> Let the stars of its dawn **be dark**; let it hope for light, but have none, nor see the eyelids of the morning,

**Psalms 35:6** Let their way **be dark** and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!

**Psalms 69:23** Let their eyes **be darkened**, so that they cannot see, and make their loins tremble continually.

**Isaiah 47:5** Sit in silence, and go into **darkness**, O daughter of the Chaldeans; for you shall no more be called the mistress of kingdoms.

### **Darkness Signifying a Day of the Lord**

**Isaiah 5:25-30** Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people, and he stretched out his hand against them and struck them, and the mountains quaked; and their corpses were as refuse in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger has not turned away, and his hand is stretched out still. <sup>30</sup> They will growl over it on that **day**, like the growling of the sea. And if one looks to the land, behold, **darkness** and distress; and the light **is darkened** by its clouds.

**Isaiah 13:9-10** Behold, **the day of the LORD** comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. <sup>10</sup> For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will **be dark** at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light.

**Joel 2:1-2** Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for **the day of the LORD** is coming; it is near, <sup>2</sup> a **day** of **darkness** and gloom, a day of clouds and thick **darkness!** Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

**Joel 2:31** The sun shall be turned to **darkness**, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome **day of the LORD** comes.

**Amos 5:18-20** Woe to you who desire **the day of the LORD!** Why would you have **the day of the LORD?** It is **darkness**, and not light, <sup>19</sup> as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. <sup>20</sup> Is not **the day of the LORD** **darkness**, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

**Amos 8:9** "And on that day," declares the Lord GOD, "I will make the sun go down at noon and **darken** the earth in broad daylight.

**Zephaniah 1:14-15** <sup>4</sup> The great **day of the LORD** is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of **the day of the LORD** is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup> A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of **darkness** and gloom, a day of clouds and thick **darkness**,

**Matthew 24:29** "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun **will be darkened**, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

**Matthew 27:45** Now from the sixth hour there was **darkness** over all the land until the ninth hour.

**Mark 13:24** "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun **will be darkened**, and the moon will not give its light,

**Mark 15:33** And when the sixth hour had come, there was **darkness** over the whole land until the ninth hour.

**Luke 23:44** It was now about the sixth hour, and there was **darkness** over the whole land until the ninth hour,

**Acts 2:20** the sun shall be turned to **darkness** and the moon to blood, before **the day of the Lord** comes, the great and magnificent **day**.

**Revelation 8:12** The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light **might be darkened**, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.