

## Are You a Candle?

I used to think that being a follower of God in the United States was just the American way of life. Everyone believed in God, went



to church, and lived by the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teaching, or so I thought. There was little opportunity to obey the Bible's urging us to share our faith, because it seemed that most people already shared it. Our country

was bright in spiritual daylight. Our institutions were based on the Bible. The founders quoted the Bible and looked to God. As we lit our individual candles of the Spirit, our own candlelight blended in with the light of the American spirit.

However, things have been changing since then, and in one of my morning readings, Jonathan Cahn wrote on Day 311 a short piece entitled "The Day Candle" that clearly expressed my thoughts.

The following is an excerpt in which a teacher is instructing his student.

"The candle in the day," he said, "represents the believer who shines in the midst of a Christian civilization. Its light blends in with the surrounding culture. The culture is in harmony with the light, at

least on the outside, and appears to support it. But the candle in the night represents the believer who shines in the midst of a post-Christian civilization, an apostate civilization, an anti-Christian, anti-biblical, anti-God civilization. Now the cultural supports and the external props are removed. The light of the Gospel is no longer in harmony with the surrounding culture. The surrounding culture now stands increasingly in opposition to the light. The light cannot blend in. It must now increasingly stand out in contrast to its surroundings,

and increasingly shine against the flow. So if you had a choice, which candle would you rather be, the candle of the day or the candle of the night?"

"The candle of the day." [answers the student]

"But it is the candle of the night that changes the world. The candle that shines in the daylight can hardly be seen. But the candle that shines in the darkness can be seen miles away. It is at the very time when it's hardest to shine the light, that it is most crucial that you do. It is then that the light is most needed. And that is when the light becomes its most powerful. So never fear the darkness. You're a light. Shine into it, especially into the night . . . and you'll light up the world."\*

For much of my life, using

Jonathan Cahn's metaphor, I saw myself living in the daylight of this Christian nation and feeling like there was little challenge to my claim to being a follower of Jesus Christ. Little did I realize that what I saw as daylight was really the late afternoon sun, with evening and night soon to follow.

As I look back on it, I'm not sure when the United States' spiritual sun set, but from the perspective of 2021, the sun has most surely set and we now have entered the darkness of spiritual night. Using Mr. Cahn's metaphor, we are now an apostate, post-Christian civilization, and not only United States,



but also the entire world. Our culture has become "anti-Christian, anti-biblical, anti-God", and the daylight of the Gospel and the Spirit of God have been snuffed out or at least greatly dimmed.

Therefore, what light is left is coming from our individual candles, the light of the Holy Spirit in each of us who believe. Our candles now shine brightly in contrast to the darkness all around

us, and with enough candles burning their fire and lending their light, our combined lights will give light to those around us, and we can change the world. We MUST NOT let the warmth and light of our spirit candles be extinguished. If we have allowed our wicks to burn down to almost nothing, to that tiny glow on the end of the wick, let us rekindle our flames and hold our candles high!

*Linda Gommel*

\*Cahn, Jonathan. The Book of Mysteries (p. 311). Charisma House. Kindle Edition.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Contributed. From the Web.

How many software programmers does it take to change a lightbulb? Zero, because that is a problem with the hardware!

How many locksmiths does it take to change a light bulb? You just need to find the right combination!

How many brave people does it take to change a light bulb? Zero, because they are not scared of the dark!

How many philosophers does it take to change a light bulb? First, let them think about it!

How does a narcissist change a lightbulb? He just holds the light and the world starts to revolve around him!

How many managers does it take to change a lightbulb? Zero, because they will just call their subordinates!

How many magicians does it take to change a light bulb? It depends on what you are changing it into!

How many bureaucrats does it take to change a lightbulb? Around 50, because one will change a lightbulb while the others will file their reports about it!

**"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."**

*Matthew 5:14-16*

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

**NO December Meeting scheduled at this time.**

Watch this column for any change or notice of the next LVEDA meeting.

**Santa Photos** Saturday, December 11, 12 - 3 PM.

### Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Collection

SATURDAY, December 11, 9A to Noon Free disposal of household hazardous waste. Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil and Filters (No oil containers over 5 gal.), latex (only) paint, medical needles, fluorescents, and all electronic waste (e-waste) NO TRASH, NOTHING ELSE. Behind LV Fire Station, 33269 Old Woman Springs Road.

- Lucerne Valley Market
- "Do it Best" Hardware
- Wash n Shop
- Crossroads Center

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website: lucernevalleymarket.com

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### LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

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