"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined." – Isaiah 9:2

"Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble and He saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of the darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their chains into pieces." – Psalm 107:13,14

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light." – Ephesians 5:8

So, there we all were, sitting in the darkness. All of us were in the darkness so we all looked at each other in the same way. The darkness does not make a distinction of who it is dark upon. It is just .. darkness. The absence of light. And so, there we were, trying to walk, bumping into everything, tripping over everything, carrying the bruises from being beaten up daily.

Off in the distance a light began to shine. It was a pinpoint of light at first, to the point that the people strained to even see it as it burned their eyes with its brightness. A pinpoint of light in a completely darkened room becomes extremely bright and blinding to those who are willing to look at it. Some looked and were drawn to that light. Others turned away, not interested as they loved the darkness they lived in.

Some of the people stood with anticipation. Focused on that light, they were drawn to it and walked towards it. The closer they got to the light, the more was revealed of the dirt that was on their clothing and upon their lives.

Right at that time, some who looked down at the stains of life, chose to run back into the darkness. They chose to live their lives there because it hid those stains. Stains that they were unwilling to give up.

"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For
everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.”  -John 3:19,20

For those who kept walking, even though they were tripped up at times, fell down, and bloodied their knees, eventually the chains were broken. Their apparel was washed as the stains of the past were removed. They found themselves were a garment of praise and a robe of righteousness, placed there because of the sacrifice made by that light of the world, Jesus.

Then, walking in the light, with the darkness behind them, as long as they kept their eyes focused on the light, the darkness was not a threat. The darkness called out for them to return. Those who remained in the darkness cried out for them to return. And some, taking their eyes off of Jesus, looked behind them, and like Lot's wife, they stood frozen until the darkness overtook them once again.

We are no longer children of darkness. So, why do we play with the darkness like it is a beautiful basket, only to find there is a deadly venomous snake inside?

Run! Run as fast as you can from the call of the darkness. Run as fast as you can from those who wish to pull you back into that darkness where they live. And, run, even from those who want to live in the shadowland, trying to live both in the darkness and the light. They will pull you down to their level if you allow them to.

We are still coming out of the darkness with every confessed sin. We draw closer to the light of the world. Nothing is worth going back for.