

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“The Dark Night”**

*“And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and prayed for day to come.” (Acts 27:29)*

### **The Dark Night of Jesus**

**Luke 22:15-16** – (15) “And he said to them, ‘I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. (16) For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

**Luke 22:41-44** – (41) “And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed, (42) saying, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.’ (43) And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. (44) And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

**Luke 22:52-53** – (52) “Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, ‘Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? (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.”

**Luke 24:1** – “But on the first day of the week, at early dawn...”

### **The Dark Night of Jesus’ Followers**

**Mark 14:27, 50** – (27) “And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered... (50) And they all forsook him, and fled.” (KJV)

**John 20:19** – “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’”

**Revelation 2:10** – (10) “Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

**2 Corinthians 1:8-10** – (8) “For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. (9) Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. (10) He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.”

**Key Point: God still says, “Let there be light”**

### **Thoughts:**

#### **(1) Better to Suffer with Christ than Party with the Perishing**

“For as we share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.” (2 Corinthians 1:5)

“You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom,” (Luke 22:28-29)

#### **(2) Wait for the Lord, Dawn will come**

“I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. (Psalm 130:5-6)

“...Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.” (Psalm 30:5)

### **Questions:**

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I experiencing a “dark night” season? (Acts 16:22-26)

Though darkness may seem to prevail, what is actually going on within a Christian’s heart? (2 Cor. 4:6)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)