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Two Great Lights

"God made the two great lights, the great light to rule the day, and the small light to rule the night."

Genesis 1:16

This passage does not mention either the sun or the moon by name, but it is obvious that these are the two great lights. Together, they give us a lovely example of Christ and His people.

The sun represents Christ. This huge star, about 93 million miles from earth and 865,000 miles in diameter, has been precisely placed by God in relation to the earth. Without its outflowing light, heat, and energy, life on earth could not survive for a moment. What a great moment for us when we realize for the first time that our sin-darkened hearts need the Lord Jesus Christ, "The Sun of Righteousness."

Then we begin to understand that He alone can provide the spiritual light, heat, and energy whereby we can live for God upon earth. As a plant flourishes in the sun, we begin to thrive in the light of His presence. But when we move into shady areas where His presence is not enjoyed, we begin to droop and fade. It pays to stay in the "Son-light."

How about the moon? Without means of producing any heat, light, or energy of its own, its cold desolation aptly pictures our natural lives. But how bright and beautiful it becomes when it reflects the light of the sun! Unfortunately, we too often resemble the moon in its changing fickleness, its many moods and phases. How easily the things of this present evil world come between ourselves and Christ, just as the earth comes between the sun and the moon, casting its shadow and obscuring the light.

God would have us to be like the full moon, reflecting the fullness of the light of the sun; that is, displaying the glories of Christ without shadows or obscurity for all around to see.

