

## MARK 4:21-23

## REALITY REVEALED

<sup>21</sup> He said to them, "Do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed? Instead, don't you put it on its stand?" <sup>22</sup> For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. <sup>23</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

When the lights go out in the building you are in, you are fortunate to have a flashlight so that you can find the door. Would you, upon opening the door, give a sigh of relief and turn off your flashlight? Of course not! Unless you had an exact picture of what is on the other side of the door, you would need your light to know what is there. To get the best view of the room and its contents you would want to place the light as high and unobstructed as possible. The light reveals what is otherwise not seen, indeed, cannot be seen in the room without the light. The coffee table you could bark your shins against, the sharp corner of the counter that could tear your clothes and the shelf on which you could bump your head are all disclosed. The light also allows you to find the telephone or the circuit breaker box. You have a flashlight so that you can see what is in the room.

*If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.* If you have a flashlight, use it. Jesus is the light that reveals reality and truth. As the Psalmist wrote, *God's word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path* (119:105). Jesus is the Word. If we are to negotiate our way through this life in this sin-darkened world, then we must hold the light of God's revelation high before us. God's word is held high before us when we make it a priority to read, study, listen and pray the Scriptures every day. Think of the Bible as your miner's helmet (a hard hat with a light on it). No miner would think of entering the mine without it. Once in the mine it is too late to decide he needs his light and protection.

**Jesus, you are the light of the world. Guide me by your light that I might see the world as it really is and be able to follow truth and shun that which is false. Inspire me through your Spirit of the need to study your word, and into the understanding of your word. Keep me from living in the world unprepared. Amen**