

Scott's Thoughts

April 7, 2024



*“And on that day,” declares the Lord God, “I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight.” (Amos 8:9, ESV).
“The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining.”*

(Joel 2:10, ESV)

Literature and songs use the word “eclipse” for various reasons. Most of those references refer to darkness in one's life such as a death, the ending of a love relationship, or when we experience very difficult situations that seem to have no good resolution. In ancient times people thought a solar eclipse was a great catastrophe. To this day we are still amazed when an eclipse occurs.

Over the last few weeks one of the BIG NEWS stories has been about the “Total Eclipse of the Sun” that will happen on April 8. They say this eclipse will be seen by more people in North America than any previous eclipse. An eclipse of the sun is nothing more than a naturally occurring event because of the orbital paths of the earth and the moon. Some have said an eclipse is a failure of light, but in reality, an eclipse is a covering. In the case of the sun, the moon comes between the earth and the sun and blocks the light of the sun from reaching the earth. But it is not a permanent condition. Most total solar eclipses last about six minutes then light is restored. However, in a lunar eclipse it is the earth that comes between the sun and the moon. As the moon has no light of its own, it

goes completely dark until light from the sun can once again reach the moon.

I like to take a more positive view of the eclipse. I believe an eclipse is great evidence of God who created the universe we live in. Astronomers use their data tables and calculators to figure out the exact moment in time and geographical location where an eclipse will occur. They can do that only because our God created the universe to function with mathematical precision.

Like an eclipse, there are times in our lives when events occur that cause us to have periods of darkness. The length of time we experience darkness may vary but the light does return. God sometimes uses periods of darkness in our lives to bring us back from our wandering away from Him. In this sense there is no evil attached to an eclipse, there is hope. Light being blocked for a time, also shows the blocking power of the blood of Jesus Christ. Our lives are stained by sin that ruins the light of our lives, but His blood blocks the effects of sin so completely that His light can shine through us as we go about our daily lives. There is no reason in the world for us to refuse to let His blood cover us because He will restore us to where God wants us to be. If light in our life is growing dim, we should not let it become a continual state, rather we should turn to God, and let Him remove the darkness.

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12 (ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott