

Black and white, night and day

John 8:42 – 47

People who see all of life in terms of black and white, night and day, or right and wrong, make me nervous. Don't they know that life is not this simple? The horizon is gray. We are fighting our way through a fog of complexity. It seems that people who always reduce life to black and white issues are people who are unwilling to do the hard work of battling through the complications and confusions of everyday living. People who refuse to wrestle with the complexities often used their right and wrong categories as a defense of their own biases or a means of harming others.

Yes, people who see things as black and white make me nervous. However, the gospel of John is presented around themes of night and day, truths and lies, and God and the devil. Jesus was very clear when speaking to the elders of the Temple, *"If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire."*

I need clarity of Jesus' vision. When I am struggling in the fog of complexity and uncertainty, dealing with the confusion of truth and lies, trying to find the light in the darkness, and seeking after my Heavenly Father in a world of evil, I need the vision of Christ. He reminds me that beyond the complexities, beyond the fog, beyond the gray of the horizon, is a spiritual battle. In this battle for the soul's of humanity, for my soul, I choose to struggle for truth; I choose to consecrate my life to God; and, I choose to seek the light of Christ.