

"SPECTRUM OF THE LIGHT"

ORANGE

What is the technical significance of this color?

Orange is a secondary color; which means it can be made by mixing two primary colors, RED and YELLOW. It has luminous qualities and has been used for attention-getting purposes, such as on caution signs. To the human eye, orange is a very hot color, so it gives the sensation of heat. Nevertheless orange increases oxygen supply to the brain, produces an invigorating effect, and stimulates mental activity.

So with all this orange on the screen, it should be easy for you to stay away while I'm talking.

Does this color have any symbolic meaning?

When a day changes into night and before the dark blue covering appears, the sunset is orange. Orange is the color of September and of Autumn. In nature, orange can symbolize change and flexibility. In heraldry (study of coats of arms and flags) orange symbolizes strength and endurance.

Symbolic of endurance and strength, orange is the color of fire and flame. It represents the red of passion tempered by the yellow of wisdom.

This makes sense. If we didn't keep our zeal/our passion under control we'd burn out. It's only with wisdom that we can pace ourselves... endurance.

<< 8 yr olds running a mile race >>

The Bible uses fire for judgment but also for refining... to extract impurities. **Without those impurities, the remaining material is strengthened.**

1Co 3:11-13, *"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. [12] Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, [13] each one's work will become clear; for the Day will*

Orange

"Spectrum of the Light" : A study of the attributes of Jesus

declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is."

What attribute of Jesus does this color represent?

Strength & Endurance.

How did Jesus demonstrate His STRENGTH & ENDURANCE?

Through saying what needed to be said...

Mat 12:2-4, *"And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, 'Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!' [3] But He said to them, 'Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him:[4] how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests?'"*

Time and time again, Jesus was confronted by the Pharisees. They twisted Scripture to suit their purposes. Jesus' response was truthful, firm, direct, and only what was necessary. **He used "surgical precision" in His statements. I constantly fight the urge to blast someone with both barrels when they say something offensive. That's what growing up in NY can do to you.** His passion for the work of His Father was tempered by His wisdom.

Through silence...

Mat 27:12, *"And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing."* **(see also: Mark 15:3; John 19:9; Isa 53:7)**

Jesus was falsely accused and His teachings taken out of context and yet He said nothing to defend Himself. He had the opportunity to "set the record straight". He

could've even done it in a way as to still be crucified and do the Father's will, and yet he remained silent. That took tremendous strength.

Through obedience...

Mat 26:42, *"Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done."*

Jesus expresses the very human desire to not have to go through what lies ahead and yet that is overshadowed by His obedience to the Father. Some portray Jesus as some sort of superhero, boldly and valiantly plunging headfirst into what lay ahead. But Scripture shows a humble king, familiar with the struggles that we go through. That should be comforting to us... He knows what we go through.

John 10:18, *"No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."*

Jesus had the power and ability to prevent what happened. Jesus never stopped being God. He voluntarily laid aside the exercise of His divine attributes. He always had them, He just made a deliberate decision not to use them.

Mat 27:26, *"Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified."*

It is important to note that there is only one verse (in 3 of the Gospel accounts) that describe the beating that Jesus received. Only one. And it isn't very descriptive. It's almost a footnote. Why? Because God's Holy Spirit didn't want us to focus on HOW Jesus died... but WHY. Something to consider. THAT is why I'm not crazy about the film that dwells on HOW He died.

Jesus knew what lay ahead for Him. Yet His only desire was to do what God the Father willed. He obediently permitted Himself to be arrested, beaten, and crucified. He had the power to stop it from happening. But He had the strength to accept what was to come, and the endurance to see it through to the end.

How can we demonstrate this attribute in OUR life?

Stand up for the truth.

There are times when things need to be said. They might be uncomfortable things or unpopular things. But they're truthful. How can we know if we should say something or not? Was it considered in prayer? (did you pray about it?) Is it Biblical? (does it line up with Scripture?) Will it cause others to stumble? Will it free others? Truthful statements set people free.

John 8:31-32, *"Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. [32] And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'"*

There have been times when I've had to confront a person or two because they were saying untrue and hurtful things about the pastors. Other times I've had to speak with people who, in an attempt to show how "spiritual" THEY are, tried to spread some legalistic hoo-ha. (I CAN say hoo-ha, can't I?!) They tried to "bind up" others... make them feel that they were LESS of a Christian because they weren't following along.

Believe me... I HATE confrontation. I really do. It's only because the Holy Spirit nudges me that I do it when necessary. I must be getting good at it because Pastor Dale said he's going to start directing people to ME instead of Pastor Dan when a heavy hand is required.

Be silent.

When we are falsely or wrongly accused of something, our immediate reaction is to defend ourselves. If the accusations are based on a reasonable or sincere misunderstanding, then clarification and explanation is required. But if the accusations are simply a mean-spirited attack, then remaining silent can be the best response. That takes strength.

That's really hard for me to do. It goes against my sense of fairness. But Scripture clearly shows that there are times when silence is required. You may

run across a person who says, "well, I just have to speak my mind. That's the way I am. I'm upfront with people and let them know what the score is." Well, the Bible says otherwise. And if they were REALLY being upfront they'd admit that the only reason they do that is to draw attention to themselves. LOL

Mat 12:36, *"But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment."*

A dishonest accusation without a response, stands alone. The focus remains on the accuser and what was said. The Lord will let the light of the truth shine through the deception.

How often do we find ourselves offering explanations for an accusation even though the accuser offered no evidence... they just made an accusation? You'll be able to spot an honest misunderstanding by the evidence.

Be obedient through trials. When going through a trial, be obedient to what the Lord has for you. Through prayer, reading God's Word, and service, He will reveal the purpose of the trial to you. One reason for experiencing trials is to build up our patience... or endurance. Our ability to endure increases our faith in the Lord.

James 1:2-3, *"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, [3] knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."*

Obedience through a trial implies knowing when to speak and when to be silent. (see the first 2 points of how we can exhibit the strength and endurance that Jesus has) Sometimes drawing attention to ourselves when we are in a trial is done for just that reason... to draw attention to ourselves. Keeping a trial to ourselves could be an issue of pride if we don't talk about it because we don't want others to know that we're dealing with something. (see: **1 Cor 13:7**; **Gal 6:1-6**)

But in all things, we should be relying on HIS strength... not our own!