

SHINING THE LIGHT

John 1:6-8

From: Scott Carlson

December 6, 2020

INTRODUCTION: LIGHT

Genesis 1:1-5

Light

Energy that glows, a source of illumination that makes sight possible

1 John 1:5b

God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

1 John 5:20

And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

These grand thoughts from John 1:1-5 are interrupted by a man named John.

Proposition: God sends witnesses so that His people will believe in His Messiah.

I. A WITNESS FOR THE LIGHT

A. TO TESTIFY CONCERNING THE LIGHT

Witness

A legal term referring to someone who gives testimony or provides evidence to establish the truth.

John 1:34; 5:33

A couple of questions came to my mind as I contemplated these verses this week.

? Why do we need a witness to the light?

2 Corinthians 4:3, 4

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

John 12:40

Matthew 6:22, 23

The eye is the lamp of the body; so then, if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Matthew 23:16, 17, 19, 24, 26

John 9:39

? How does God choose to counteract this blindness?

He sent John.

Another problem is that Satan disguise himself as an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:14

No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

? How do we hear truth through all the voices?

B. THAT ALL MIGHT BELIEVE

? Why do we need a witness for the light?

Romans 1:21-23

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their reasonings, and their senseless hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and they exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible mankind, of birds, four-footed animals, and crawling creatures.

John 3:19

Point: Never underestimate our ability to miss the Light.

II. A WITNESS, BUT NOT THE LIGHT

John 1:15, 19-28; 3:28

John 5:35

? Why John's insistence that he was not the Light?

John 5:35

Point: Never underestimate our ability to settle for a witness and neglect the truth.

CONCLUSION: SIGNIFICANCE OF JOHN

1. He was sent by God.
2. He was all about God's Work as a witness.
3. He understood his role as a subordinate to Jesus.

APPLICATION

John 20:31

1. That you may believe

John 8:12

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

John the Baptist came that you may believe.

2. That you may be a witness

Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:14, 15

We are called lights, but it is good for us to remember that we are not the Light.

Matthew 5:14, 15; Ephesians 5:8; Philippians 2:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:5

We are not the light, but even like John, be the lamp that shines the light.

Matthew 5:16

Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.