

# *Jesus Is the Light of the World*

Sunday AM, February 18, 2024

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Straight Paths Bible Church

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Genesis 1:3-5 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Psalm 119:105 NUN. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- I. God was the light before there was a sun in the sky.
  - A. It was not until the fourth day of creation that God created the sun to rule the day and the moon to rule the night.
  - B. God created all the greenery on earth before there was a sun in the sky, so life depends upon light, which comes from God, not the s-u-n.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

- C. So life depends upon God more than upon the sun in the sky.
  - D. Life without God is like life without the sun in the sky.
    - 1. The soul is dark and exists only in the realm of feelings and desires.
    - 2. There is no where to go and nothing to focus on except the basest of desires and feelings.
  - E. What would the world be like without the sun?
  - F. It would be a dungeon of dungeons and life could not exist at all.
  - G. Someone might bring an example of some form of life on earth that lives in complete darkness, on the bottom of the sea, or under the earth, but those forms of life could not be sustained were it not for other life forms that live in the light, on which they depend for their sustenance.
  - H. When Jesus proclaimed that He is the light of the world, He meant for us to understand that He is as important to life as the sun in the sky is.
  - I. What the sun does for man physically on earth, the Son does for man spiritually, on earth and for eternity.
- II. As the sun lights up the earth, so the Son lights up the soul of man.
    - A. Watching the sun rise in the morning and the day dawn we see a picture of salvation.

2 Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

- B. Salvation is not a flash-in-the-pan, or an explosion of light, but more like the dawning of the day.
  - 1. If we would understand this truth we would be much more fruitful in seeing souls won to Christ.
  - 2. Saul of Tarsus saw a light as bright as the sun, but it blinded him, it did not enlighten him.

3. The Lord knows what each man needs to be brought into his light, and Saul needed to come this way, but the light had been dawning in his soul before the incident on the road to Damascus.
  4. When the day dawns we see the light of the sun before we see the sun itself, and when we do see the sun itself it will blind us if we gaze upon it.
  5. Someday we will be able to gaze upon his face, but for now we must walk in his light.
- C. “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”
1. The light of a lamp is limited to a very small part of the immediate area.
  2. A lamp will help us one step at a time, and the Word of God does that.
  3. But the Word of God is also a light unto our path, which is what lies ahead of us in the distance.
  4. The Word of God shows us the way, the direction to what lies in the distance ahead, not just the moment-by-moment.
  5. Jesus said He is the “way, the truth, and the life.”
  6. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

III. “He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness.”

- A. This is a statement of fact concerning all who truly follow Jesus.
- B. It is one of the defining markers of the new birth, that we do not walk in darkness.

1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

1 Thessalonians 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

- C. In the beginning God divided the light from the darkness called the light Day and the darkness He called Night.
1. There are certain forms of life that come out at night, and there are others that live in the day and sleep at night.
  2. The beasts that come out at night and are hidden during the day are usually those who are ravenous and looking to kill and devour.
  3. The human beings who walk in darkness are very similar to the beasts of the night.

John 3:19-21 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

- D. To walk in darkness is to live as though we are blind to the steps of our feet and the path ahead of us.
1. It is to live making foolish choices and mistakes as a way of life.
  2. It is to live with no eye to the future, here on earth, or in eternity.
  3. To walk in darkness is to be stumbling over things you did not see.
- E. To walk in darkness is to have fellowship with others who are walking in darkness.

Ephesians 5:11-12 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

1. It is to love the world and the things that are in the world.

2. It is to order our lives with the changing fads and fashions of this world.
3. It is to be influenced by the moral insanity of this ungodly world around us and therefore oppose what the Word of God teaches us.

IV. Jesus said He is the light of the world, and He is also the light in eternity.

Revelation 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the light of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

- A. We should walk in his light here on earth as we expect to in eternity.
- B. He is the same light here as He will be in eternity.
- C. If we refuse to walk in his light here, how can we possibly expect to walk in his light in eternity?
- D. Light gives life; light shows the way; light reveals the dangers; light reveals the beauty of things.
- E. Why do some fear the light more than they fear the darkness?
- F. Why does an innocent child fear the dark, but is comforted by the sight of its mother?
- G. The only reason anyone would prefer the darkness is because the light hurts them.
- H. The only reason the light would hurt them is because they have something hidden that they do not want seen, and do not want to look at themselves.

John 3:19-21 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

Isaiah 2:5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Revelation 21:24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.