

Jesus Is the Light of the World

Introduction:

1. Light is essential to life.
 - a. Physically
 - b. Spiritually (John 1:1-4)
2. To have spiritual life, one must understand Jesus as the Light of the World.

I. The Creation of Light (Genesis 1:1-5)

- A. Light was created on Day One.
- B. The Sun was not created until Day Four.
- C. "God is light" (1 John 1:5; 1 Tim. 6:16).
- D. He sustains and controls the universe... (Hebrews 1:1-3)
 1. The Sun and Moon stood still (Josh. 10:12-14).
 2. The Sun was darkened (Luke 23:44-46).
 3. No need of Sun in Heaven (Rev. 21:23; 22:5).
- E. God is the true source of light – both physically and spiritually.

II. The Manifestation of Light (John 8:12; 9:1-41)

- A. Jesus declared Himself to be the light of the world.
 1. He was a reliable witness, but not the only one.
 2. He also had the testimony of His Father.
 - a. At His baptism (Matt. 3:17)
 - b. At His transfiguration (Matt. 17:5)
 - c. The confirmation of miracles (John 20:30-31)
 - d. The Scripture / doctrine (2 Pet. 1:16-21)
- B. When healing a man who had been blind from birth, Jesus repeated this truth.
 1. The miracle confirmed physically what was true spiritually.
 - a. Jesus could give physical sight to one who was blind.
 - b. Jesus can give spiritual light to one who is lost.

- c. Notice that the gift offered by Jesus could only be received by complying with His instructions (9:6-7, 11).
 - d. This is also true in salvation (Eph. 2:8-10; Acts 2:38, 41, 47).
 - 2. The miracle proved the deity of Jesus – thus, His nature and authority.
 - 3. The miracle demonstrated true compassion for man.
 - a. The Pharisees cared only about upholding their tradition (13-16).
 - b. The Pharisees cared only about discrediting Jesus (vs. 24-34).
 - c. His parents cared only about pleasing the Pharisees (vs. 18-23).
 - d. Jesus cared about what was best for all men (vs. 35-41).
 - 4. The miracle showed Jesus as the Savior of the world – willing to receive those cast out by man (vs. 34-35).
- C. Today, the light of the Lord shines through the Gospel of Christ (Acts 13:47; 26:18; 2 Cor. 4:4-6; 2 Tim. 1:10).
- D. Thus, Christians must let their lights shine and become the light of the world (Matt. 5:14-16; cf. Rom. 13:12; Eph. 5:8; 1 Thes. 5:5; 1 Pet. 2:9; 1 John 1:7).

III. The Conflict of Light with Darkness (Luke 11:33-36)

- A. When Israel came out of Egypt, God led them by a pillar of cloud and fire (Exo. 13:21-22).
- B. This pillar was a light to Israel, but darkness to Egypt (Exo. 14:19-20).
- C. This symbolized the hardness of Pharaoh's heart toward the truth of God.
 - 1. God brought judgment against the gods of Egypt (Exo. 12:12).
 - 2. Yet, Pharaoh refused to be persuaded by the evidence given by God.
 - 3. The more he resisted, the more hardened his heart became.
 - 4. Eventually, he decided that he could defeat the Lord with horses and chariots (Exo. 14:5-8).
 - 5. This led to his destruction in the Red Sea (Psa. 136:15).
- D. Jesus warned against this attitude of heart in terms of light and darkness (Matt. 6:22-23).
- E. One who loves darkness (John 3:19) will be cast into outer darkness (Matt. 25:30).