

Light in Darkness

John 1:4-5

4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Introduction

1. John 1:1-13 is the Complete Text

a. Jesus was in the Beginning with God and He was God (1-2)

1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2) The same was in the beginning with God.

b. Jesus was involved with the creation of all things (3)

3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

c. Through Jesus there is life, and He is the light for all men (4-5)

4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5) And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not...

d. Jesus, and Jesus alone is the True Light (9)

9) That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

e. Jesus, the Light came to this world, to His own, but the light was rejected (10-11)

10) He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. 11) He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

f. To those who receive Jesus, He, Jesus gives them power to become the sons of God through a new birth (12-13)

12) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God

2. The word "comprehended" in v5 is from the Greek "Katalambano" which means

a. To lay hold of

b. To lay hold of so as to make one's own,

c. To obtain,

- d. To attain to,
- e. To seize upon or take possession of
- f. The evil ones cannot overtake the light or control the light
- g. To detect or catch
- h. To understand, or perceive, or learn, or comprehend

Note: Use these definitions in v5

3. Now, look at verses 5 in different versions

- a. KJV...And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- b. NIV...The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- c. NLT...The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.
- d. AMP...

The Light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness did not understand it *or* overpower it *or* appropriate it *or* absorb it [and is unreceptive to it].

4. God has “More” for us then what we have

- a. I received requests from many of you which indicate that you want “More” from God
 - i. Better health
 - ii. More finances
 - iii. Deliverance
 - iv. Better life
 - v. More of God
- b. To receive “More,” we must move deeper into the light
 - i. Many are just living in the shadows of the light
 - ii. Many yearn to be deeper into the light, but they are fearful that the light will reveal things about them that cannot be seen in the shadows

1) Shabby clothes

2) Scars

3) Blemishes, etc

Note: Apply this spiritually

iii. We stay in the shadows because we do not know how to get rid of the ugly things in our lives

iv. Let Jesus do to you what a makeup artist does to models, actresses, politicians, etc

v. Come into the light, and let Jesus apply the light to those things which appear to be unsightly in our lives which will make us appealing to everyone else

c. An excerpt from “Prayer of Binding and Loosing for Others”

i. This is the 4th paragraph of that prayer

I loose the power and effects of deception and lies from _____. I loose the confusion and blindness of the god of this world from _____’s mind that has kept him/her from seeing the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I call forth every precious word of Scripture that has ever entered in his/her mind and heart that it would rise up in power within him/her.

ii. Notice the phrase

“I loose the confusion and blindness of the god of this world from _____’s mind that has kept him/her from seeing the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ

iii. I felt that the Spirit spoke to me one morning when praying, before I ever moved here, and it was impressed upon me that “all of us have some blindness,” because we are not able to see the “full light,” so we grow in knowledge and understanding which enlightens us in God’s will, in God’s power, in God’s desire, so we can be free, have “More” than we have now

1) This is why we read God’s Word

2) This is why we pray

3) This is why we come to Sunday School and Wednesday Bible studies

4) This is why we come to Sunday morning Worship, Sunday evening Worship, and attend Revivals

5) Greater knowledge and understanding in Christ and of His Word is what lightens our

path so we can walk in greater light appropriating the Presence and Spirit of God which enable us to have “More” of God, to have what we have requested in our lives.

iv. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 6

3) But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4) In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them....6) For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Note v3 in the Nlt

If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing.

5. Jesus is the Light where we will find what we need, and that light cannot be put out by the darkness, so those who come to the Light and live in the Light, they will grow in understanding to have greater victory in this life

- a. Bondages occur because we do not understand
- b. Bondages occur because we are afraid
- c. Bondages occur because we do not want to pay the price of freedom

I. Jesus in the Light of the World

A. Light came into darkness

1. John 12:46

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

2. 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

3. Matthew 4:16

The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

4. Luke 1:78-79...Jesus is that Dayspring (Morning light) that gives us light for our life

78) Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,
79) To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

5. Luke 2:30-32...Simeon prophecy over Jesus

30) For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, 31) Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; 32) A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

B. Jesus brought us light so we do not have to live in darkness

1. John 12:35

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.

2. John 3:21

But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

3. John 12:36

While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

4. Romans 13:12

The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

5. Ephesians 5:8

For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light

6. Ephesians 5:13-14

13) But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. 14) Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

Note: Give God praise that you do not have to walk in sin and darkness

C. Light reveals, so walk as Children of the Light

1. John 3:19-20 shows us that some do not like the light

20) And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 21) For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

2. Listen to the admonition to walk in the light

a. Colossians 1:12

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Note: Let us praise Him that we are partakers of the Inheritance of the Light

b. 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.

Note: Praise God again that you are of the day and not of the night

c. 2 Timothy 1:9-10...Jesus is the One who has saved us

9) Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 10) But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

Note: Praise Him

d. 1 Peter 2:9...Because of Christ

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

Note: Praise Him

3. 1 John 1:5-7

5) This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6) If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Note: There is no reason for any of us to live in any type of bondage, for Light as come to us, and we have opportunity to move from darkness to Light

II. Examples of what light does to darkness

1. Light caused death to flee as Jesus raised the widow's son at Nain in Luke 7
2. Light forgave sin and healed the sick of the palsy in Matthew 9
3. Light walked into the room where Jairus daughter lay dead, and death fled in Mark 5
4. Light was shining when Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery "Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more" in John 8
5. Light was shining when a woman named Mary from Magdala met Jesus, and seven devils of darkness left her so light could shine in her life as revealed in Mark 16 and Luke 8
6. Light slipped into a cemetery and cried "Lazarus, Come forth," as He who is the Resurrection and Life took authority over the darkness of death in John 11
7. Light walked on the water to some frightened fishermen on a stormy night in Matthew 14
8. Light stood in a ship and said "Peace be still" when the boats was rocked in the stormy sea in Mark 4
9. Light walked on the shore of the Gadarenes and one who lived among the tombs was set free to return to his family to share what the Light had done in him in Mark 5
10. Light appeared and the boy who was tormented by demons was released in Mark 9
11. Light appeared and Blind Bartimaeus of Jericho could now see in Mark 10
12. Light appeared and lepers were healed in Luke 17
13. Light appeared and a thief who hung on a cross went to paradise in Luke 23
14. Light appeared and a voice from the cross cried "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" in Luke 23
15. Light appeared and a voice was heard that said "It is finished" in John 19
16. Light appeared and a grave burst open which held the body of the Light in 24
17. Light appeared into an upper room and 120 believers were filled with the Holy Spirit in Acts 2
18. Light appeared and I am no longer a sinner but a saint by the grace of God
19. Light appeared and my wife was healed of a disease which afflicted her for years

20. Light appeared and we were filled with the Holy Spirit
21. Light appeared and Brother Donahue was healed of a brain tumor
22. Light appeared and a drunk has been made sober
23. Light appeared and a drug addict has been set free
24. Light appears and addictions flee
25. Light appears and healing occur
26. Light appears and the Holy Ghost falls

III. Let us let the Light shine

A. Jesus' words to us in

1. Matthew 5:14, 16

14) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

2. If we will be to Jesus what Jesus was to the Father then Jesus will be to us what the Father was to Him

- a. Light will shine through us
- b. We will walk in freedom, and be able to share freedom with others
- c. We will walk without addictions and be able to share with others how to be free in Jesus
- d. We will walk without condemnation because we love the light, and we will be able to share with others how to walk without condemnation

B. We are the only Bible that some will ever read

1. Let them see Jesus in us
2. The More we get, the More we can share
3. Let us redeem the time to be free and share freedom, for we know that Jesus is soon to appear

Conclusion

1. Christ came as a light to give you life
2. Christ wants you to have life and to have life more abundantly
3. It is time for those who want real freedom to walk out of the shadows into the full light
 - a. Allowing God to reveal the wrong and the hurt in their lives so Jesus can heal
 - b. So you will no longer stand on the outside looking in, but you can be on the inside where the presence and Spirit of God is flowing
 - c. Allowing yourself to make a commitment that will change your life forever
4. Real life will only come from basking in the light, and if we avoid opportunities to meet for prayer, study, preaching, teaching, then we will never grow in the light like we should