

Our Need of God's Light

⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to 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 practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. (1 John 1:5-10)

Light Used: John (32x): John (23x) – 1 John (6x) – Rev (3x) | Luke (16x): Luke (6x), Acts (10x) | Paul (12x): Rom (2x), 2 Cor (3x), Eph (4x), Col, 1 Th, 1 Tim | Matt (7x) | Mark (1x) | James (1x) | 1 Pet (1x)

I. WHAT DOES THE LIGHT DO?

A. **Light Reveals – God's Light Shows Us What We Cannot Otherwise Know (Eph 5:13)**

But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. (Eph 5:13)

1. **God's Light Shows Us What Is Right and Wrong (John 3:19-21; 2 Cor 6:14; 1 John 2:8-11)**

John 3:19-21 – ¹⁹ "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

2 Cor 6:14 – Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

1 John 2:8-11 – ⁸ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. ⁹ He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. ¹⁰ He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹ But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

2. **God's Light Shows Us What Is True and False (John 8:12; 2 Cor 4:6; 1 John 1:5-7)**

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

2 Cor 4:6 – ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:5-7 – ⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to 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 practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

B. **Light Guides – God's Light Shows Us How to Walk (John 8:12; 11:9-10; 12:35)**

1. **Life Requires God's Light (John 8:12)**

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

2. **Without God's Light We Stumble (John 11:9-10; 1 John 2:11)**

John 11:9-10 – ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ "But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

1 John 2:11 – But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

3. **Without God's Light We Are Lost (John 12:35)**

John 12:35 – Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.

II. WHO OR WHAT IS THE LIGHT? The Word

A. *The Word Which Became Flesh*

John 1:4-9 – ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name [was] John. ⁷ This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

John 8:12 – Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 9:5 – As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

John 12:46 – I have come [as] a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

B. *The Word Which Was Inspired By God*

Psalms 119:105, 130 – Your word [is] a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. 130 – The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

John 17:17 – Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

Rom 10:17 – So then faith [comes] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2 Tim 3:16-17 – ¹⁶ All Scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

James 1:21-23 – ²¹ Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues [in it,] and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

1 Pet 2:2 – as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

1 John 2: 5 – But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

1 John 2:14 – I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him [who is] from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

III. WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE LIGHT?

A. *Light Is Universally Needed by Everyone (John 1:9)*

John 1:9 – That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

B. *We Need to Understand the Light (John 1:4-5)*

John 1:4-5 – ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

C. *We Need to Believe in the Light (John 1:7; 12:36, 46)*

John 1:7 – This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe.

John 12:36 – While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

John 12:46 – I have come [as] a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

D. *We Need to Walk in the Light (1 John 1:5-7)*

1 John 1:5-7 – ⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to 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 practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.