

The Word, Life and Light

INTRODUCTION

Genesis 1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.
5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

John 1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 He was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
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.

1 John 1

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-
2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-
3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.
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.

- These three passages have some lovely correlations to consider. The Beginning / The Word of Life / The separation of Light from darkness
- Old Testament / Gospels / Epistles. The message is the same!
- When we read "All things were made through Him" it can be easy to miss the wonder. This Gospel is personal!

Psalm 100

3 Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Psalm 139

13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.
14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.
15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skilfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

- When we read He made all things, let us not forget this or take it for granted. He has carefully and purposefully planned and formed YOU!!
- Let us not miss the intimate, personal application of these great and wonderful truths!

This is a personal Gospel. We have a personal relationship with Almighty God and let us keep our hearts and faith stirred to seek out more and more of His abundant LIFE! He has planned and He has purposed for exceedingly abundantly more than we can imagine! Have faith!

LIFE/WORD

John 1

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.

- The CEB (Common English Bible) says "through The Word was life". In "Him" THE PERSON was life! In HIS WORD is life!
- God said, "Let there be Light" and we are living in it. God spoke creation into being! God spoke and we have HIS WORD!

Psalm 119

50 This is my comfort in my affliction, For Your word has given me life.

John 6

63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

...

68 But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- His Word is Life giving!! Hallelujah! The psalmist and Peter testify of life given to them! (personal) Do we live in this daily reality? Where do we go?
- His Word, His statutes, His commandments are not grievous!! Separation from sin. Separated UNTO LIFE!! Not just life but HIS Life!!

John 3

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

John 10

10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- Separation and circumcision or heart is not sombre, dead religion! Holiness is CHRIST! It is HIS life within the Born-Again believer!
- Or consider the beasts around the throne. They don't cry day and night for tradition! They are crying out in joyful praise and awe filled worship!! They are rejoicing in adoration!! The closer you get to God the more you can't help but cry out...
- True holiness is a life filled with JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND FULL OF GLORY!! It is joy and peace in The Holy Spirit! It is HIS Life! LIFE that darkness cannot comprehend or overcome!! Hallelujah! His Life is victorious! In HIS life we are more than conquerors!

In Jesus is LIFE! Let us be careful not to quench that life. Let us be careful not to neglect to remember how great a Salvation we have received. Let us be careful to rejoice evermore, bringing our petitions with thanksgiving. Let HIS ABUNDANT LIFE be seen in us!

LIGHT

Genesis 1

4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

John 1

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.

1 John 1

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.

- We read plainly that there was a division between light and darkness. The Light is entirely separate and unpolluted by darkness.
- We too ought to be separated, putting off the works of darkness, having our hearts circumcised and we should be walking in HIS Light, being exposed, receiving revelation, having understanding, living in the newness of HIS LIFE!! His ABUNDANT Life!!
- We also read clearly that God is Light
- Jesus also states plainly that He is THE Light! Signifying exposure, truth, knowledge, wisdom, revelation, righteousness, judgement...

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."

Hebrews 1

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,
2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
4 having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Hebrews 1

3 Who being the sole expression of the glory of God [or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of God's nature, upholding and maintaining the universe by His mighty word of power... (AMPC)

- Jesus Christ is The Light! He is the brightness of God's Glory! He is the expression of God's nature/person! He is Holy, He is Worthy!! We cannot praise Him enough or overstate His Glory and Beauty! He is worthy, worthy, worthy!
- And yet, considering His Glory and His Holiness, He came to man as man. He became as human as you or me. Think of your weaknesses, your temptations, your battles, your irritations... Jesus experienced them all! He left the splendour of His existence to obey His Father and become a man! Consider how unworthy and unlovable man is as a creature!! How unlovable! How failed we were as a race! And yet He came...

John 1

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

- This Light is for individuals. It is for "He who follows". I love the wording here though too. He didn't come for "man". John states plainly that His Life was the "light of men". That's plural. It's personal. Jesus is YOUR Light!! Are we grateful for that? Can we say Hallelujah?! Praise The Lord?!
- Not for He who used to follow, not for He who acknowledges... But for a life following LIFE! Are we following Jesus daily, or religious practice?
- It is for the whosoever will... Therefore, John can write "as WE walk in The Light..." Hallelujah! There is an individual responsibility to be following and enjoying The Lord but there is also in that a communal blessing and privilege! That is the greater testimony/blessing! That is The Glory of God! The gathering of His people into ONE!

Psalm 87

2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Jesus is the Light of the world. He IS knowledge, truth, understanding, wisdom, power and love.
But do we believe He is that same powerful light within us? Understand that question and seek out the true answer!
Do you have Faith?

ARISE, SHINE!

John 1

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.*
10 *He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.*
11 *He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.*
12 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:*
13 *who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

- Let us be stirred up in faith of His Word, Be filled with His Life and His Spirit and Let HIS Light shine!! May Christ truly be seen for ALL that He is!
- Consider it... You may feel safe or content in Your Salvation but is Christ truly seen for ALL that He is in Your life? May we give our whole lives to seek out what it means to be witnesses of HIM!

Isaiah 60

1 *Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.*
2 *For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.*
3 *The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.*

- Your Light has come!! It is YOU who must arise (life) and shine (light) now! God has set His Glory upon His people!
- Show forth HIS LIFE! HIS LIGHT! HIS GLORY!! That is the Gospel!! That is the purpose and desire of God for His people!

Acts 1

8 ... and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Consider the people who followed the pillar. May The World see such a people for Christ!
