

Date: December 28, 2025

Title: The Light of Christmas

Passage: John 8:12

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Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Summary:

- I. Jesus is the light of the world.
- II. He who follows Jesus never walks in darkness.
- III. Follow the light of the world into the light of life.

Key Truths:

- Jesus is the light of the world, which points to His deity as God ("I AM")
- God is light and love. Always. He is never darkness. In Christ, we are never alone though surrounded with perceived darkness.
- As we follow Jesus, we are to focus on the future of light of when Jesus will come again.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- How were you in darkness before you believed in Jesus?
- In what way is Jesus "the light"?
- What misperceptions of God can distract us from God as light?
- How is Jesus the light in your world?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been heard or seen?

Introduction

Holidays

- God's design to set aside holy days (special days to celebrate specific things)
- Biblical holidays (spring)
 - Feasts of Passover
 - Feasts of Unleavened Bread (pre-figured how the sinless Christ would die and buried for our sins)
 - Feasts of First Fruits (pre-figured Christ being the first fruit)
 - Feasts of Weeks (7 weeks later, prefigured how Jesus is ascended and pours His Spirit as a guarantee of the full harvest)
- Biblical holidays (summer)
 - None

- Biblical holidays (fall)
 - Feast of Trumpets (great day of atonement, prefigured when Messiah would come for Israel)
 - Feast of Booths/Tabernacles/Tents (when God would dwell with God forever)
- Annual holidays of spring (first coming), long silence of summer, and awaiting the fall (second coming)
 - Holidays point to Christ.
 - Point to Jesus first coming and foreshadow his second coming.

Context of Passage:

John 7:1-2 (Jesus at the Feast of Booths)

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand.

- Old Testament: Feast of Booths of where all of Israel are in tents and come to listen to God teach.

John 7:14-15

About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?”

John 7:32 (Priests sought to arrest Jesus)

The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him.

John 7:40-46

When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This really is the Prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” The officers answered, “No one ever spoke like this man!”

Passage:

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

EXPOSITION

Overview

- I. Jesus is the light of the world.
- II. He who follows Jesus never walks in darkness.

III. Follow the light of the world into the light of life.

I. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 8:12a

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of the world

- pointing to His deity as God ("I AM")

John 4:25-26

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

John 8:24

I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins."

John 8:58

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

- God revealed Himself as the "I AM"
- God later reveals Himself as a bright light.

Exodus 20:18

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off

John 1:1-5 (The Word Became Flesh)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

1 John 1:1-2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—

1 John 1:5

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

- Question: Do you believe in the message: God is light?
 - We all struggle in the belief in the message that God is light.
 - We may think God is cold to our cares, hiding in the shadows, looking to jump on us.
- Truth: God is light and love. Always. He is never darkness.
 - God's face always shines. Never shadow.

Psalm 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Isaiah 60:19

The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

II. HE WHO FOLLOWS JESUS NEVER WALKS IN DARKNESS.

John 8:12b

...Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,

- When you are in Christ, you are never in darkness.

Psalms 139:11-12

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

Micah 7:8-9

Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me. I will bear the indignation of the LORD because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication.

Analogy: Sleeping with an eye cover. When wake up, can't see anything for a moment until take it off.

- Likewise, though in Christ, how often we may feel like the light has gone out.
 - "Darkness Deja Vu" = we think we are back in darkness.
 - Truth: you are never in darkness.

Ephesians 5:8

for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

Psalms 23:4

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

- we are never alone though surrounded with perceived darkness.

God's Word speaks of God as light of the world. The light of the world will be the Priest-King.

Numbers 24:17

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

Isaiah 49:7

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Zechariah 6:13

It is he who shall build the temple of the LORD and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both."

Zechariah 14:4

On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.

Zechariah 14:16

Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths.

Psalms 110:4-7

The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth. He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Malachi 4:2

But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

How must we now live?

- Bask in God's light
- As king, Jesus shines as Savior to sinners, as Priest Jesus shines for sinners
 - Christ is the complete Savior.
- Darkness may be felt but it is never final.
 - Stop thinking your life is dark, look to God.
 - If have some begetting sin, look to God.

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

III. FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD INTO THE LIGHT OF LIFE

John 8:12c

but will have the light of life."

- As we follow Jesus, we are to focus on the future of light of when Jesus will come again.

2 Peter 1:16-19

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,

- In Christ, always be praying for Jesus' Second Coming.

Revelation 22:20

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

- Follow Jesus through His Word.
- Where does God's Word end? When Jesus returns.
 - Focus and study our destiny and fate.
 - Grow in the grace and knowledge of God.

Revelation 21:22-27

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

2 Peter 3:14-18

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.