

“The Light of the World” (Jn. 8:12-20)

1. A Light has Dawned (12)
 - a. Isa. 9:2
 - b. Light connotes revelation, truth, reality, purity, and God himself (Ps. 27:1; 1 Jn. 1:5).
2. Sin has Darkened the World (12)
 - a. Consequential Darkness
 - i. The evil rulers and prophets are in darkness. Evil begets ignorance (Mic. 3:1-6).
 - ii. Ps. 82:1-5 echoes the folly of evil deeds.
 - iii. Darkness is a result of injustice and hating the truth.
 - b. Moral Darkness
 - i. Prov. 2:13 & 4:19 relate darkness to unrighteousness.
 - ii. Evil is celebrated today and seemingly brought into the light. However, Jn. 3:19!
 - iii. Why the seeming contradiction? Those who have done evil in the dark do not like being sequestered so they attempt to bring darkness over society. They call darkness light and attempt to enjoy it. They call evil good and condemn the good calling them evil! Matt. 6:22-23!
 - iv. Darkness is thus assoc. w/ fear!
 - c. Hostile Darkness
 - i. Eph. 6:12 states that powers of darkness are actively attacking goodness, truth, beauty, and purity.
 - ii. Our media is overflowing w/ darkness. Debauchery, revenge, deception, envy, and clear animosity and disregard for righteousness fills 99% of TV shows, movies, and news!
 - d. Experiential Darkness
 - i. Isa. 59:9 darkness result of sin/iniquity, evil, etc.
 - ii. The fear indicative of darkness is replaced by peace brought forth by the Daystar (Lu. 1:78-9)!
 - e. Fatal Darkness
 - i. Natural
 1. Consequence of Evil done Without: Ps. 143:3
 2. Consequence of Evil done Within: Ps. 143:2 cf. Ro. 6:23.
 - ii. Judicial
 1. Zeph. 1:15 Judgment Day
 2. 1 Sam. 2:9
 - iii. Eternal
 1. Matt. 22:13 outer darkness speaks of the everlasting state/condition of those who do not follow the truth cf. Mat. 25:45-46; Jn. 5:29.
 2. Jesus is not some religious leader who came to teach and demonstrate how to live a better life. He is life and came to give His so that we could have eternal life in Him! Ro. 6:23!
3. Deception of Darkness (13-20)
 - a. 2 Cor. 11:14
 - b. Jesus is often seen distinguishing bad judgment from good judgment cf. Mat 7:1-6.
 - c. Those who think they see are actually blind (Jn. 9:41)
 - d. Our society boasts of Enlightenment:

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- i. Knowledge: evolution, gender, esoteric knowledge e.g. crystals, medians, wizards (Isa. 8:22). Deut. 18:9-14!
 - ii. Progress: abortion, censorship, secularism, humanism, etc.
 - iii. Tolerance: censorship, hypocrisy,
 - iv. Fame: self-worship, “be yourself,” captain of my soul, etc.
 - v. Vengeance: antiheros, gangsta rap exults in pleasure of gunfire and rape. First song was about murder (Gen. 4:23).
 - vi. Indulgence: exploiting others for gain. Ascending at the expense of truth, virtue, love, and justice.
- e. Those who are closed off from truth are closed off from light and are indeed blind! They are like the drunk who stumbles w/o awareness of his own stupor. Many in darkness celebrate their autonomy, their freedom – which is actual slavery, and their evil.
4. Light of Truth (13-20)
- a. Those in the dark erroneously judge according to the flesh v. 15 but Jesus’ judgment is true.
 - b. Those who rail against the truth refuse to be convinced.
 - i. They demand more than necessary. Two witnesses required and Jesus had had many to that point and would have many soon after.
 - ii. He had already cited witnesses such as John, His works, His Father, Moses, and the Scriptures!
 - c. Nevertheless, even His own testimony was more than sufficient because He is Truth! He is THE Light! He is the Judge by whom all others – including judges – are judged! Read Ps 139 and Jam 4:4.

PC:

One cannot live without making judgments but we must strive not to be judgmental (condemnatory). We are people of the light though we must walk in a dark world; thus we must use discernment and judge righteously. We need to be ‘street smart’ Christians who spot a lie from a mile away and sniff out deception by the light of truth. Detecting lies and deception requires us to know the truth and knowing and walking in truth is to walk in the light. C. S. Lewis stated that he knew the sun existed not only because he could see it but that by it, he could see everything else. Jesus is truth and assessing His credentials is a thing that can and must be done. When one honestly examines the person and work of Christ, she understands that He is truth and the Judge of all that is true and false – what is good and evil! Jesus is both the Judge of all mankind and the Light which exposes the deeds of man. Thankfully, He is also the Savior who paid the penalty for our sins!