

I Am the Light of the World

Keith Dixon
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Gray

Introduction

1. John 8:12
2. Light is one of the basic essentials to existence on this earth, yet we probably take it for granted as much as anything on this earth
 - a. We know that night does come, yet there is still lights
 - b. We know that the sun will be there in the morning
 - c. Thus we never really concern ourselves with our plight if there were suddenly be no sun or light.
3. Yet there are places in this world, in our nation, yea even in our own community where there is no light.
4. What is the connection between Christ and light so that Christ would call Himself the Light of the World?
 - a. Light stands for purity, knowledge, thus in this sense He is the light of the World
 - b. In contrast darkness stands for evil, corruption and ignorance, over which Satan rules.
5. Let us notice some other areas where there is a correlation between Christ and light

II Discussion

1. One purpose for light is to illuminate an area in which to move about
 - a. God begins creation with light so as to work Genesis 1:3
 - b. The pillar of fire during the night was for light and protection Exodus 13:21; 14:20
 - c. Jesus is the Light of the world, John 8:12; 9:4
 - i. He is the Sun that chases ignorance, the clouds of doubt and the darkness of despair away, and who fills the soul with the light of heavenly knowledge and hope. B.W. Johnson commentary on John p. 137
 - ii. He gives light to us Luke 1:77 – 79; John 14:6
 - iii. Illuminate the path to God (Psalm 119:105; 2 Timothy 1:8-10
2. Another purpose for light is to disclose and illuminate dangerous obstacles
 - a. Regardless of how well we know our homes, we still, when getting up turn the lights on
 - i. We know that toys, tools, chairs or other furniture may be in the way.
 - ii. Outside we still turn the lights on, to see what may be in the way, snake or stick
 - b. We need the light of God's Word to find and stay on the "narrow" and "strait" gate and path Matthew 7:13-14
 - c. Jesus tells us some obstacles that might get in our way to "the way."
 - i. False prophets Matthew 7:15; 1 John 4:1
 - ii. Men Matthew 10:17
 - iii. Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees Matthew 16:6, 12
 - iv. Covetousness Luke 12:15
 - d. Unless we are walking in the Light of God's Dear Son, then we can stumble and fall; every obstacle comes as a surprise of which we are not prepared to cope Jeremiah 10:23
3. Another purpose of light is to enhance the beauty of our surroundings
 - a. Without light there would be no enjoyment of colors
 - i. When the sun goes down on flowers watch how the colors seem to fade away also

- ii. A muddy pond in which there is not much light, will have fish with no vivid colors!
 - b. The light that Jesus sheds upon our upward journey makes life more pleasant and beautiful John 10:10
 - c. Not only do we have physical blessing but the spiritual blessings as well Ephesians 1:3; 2 Peter 1:3; Luke 18:29-30
- 4. Three things implied in this "I am."
 - 1. That there is darkness in the world apart from Jesus John 1:4-5; 1 John 1:7; John 8:12
 - 2. That Christ is the only light John 14:6; Jeremiah 10:23
 - 3. That the Light of Christ is for the benefit of all mankind "world" 1 Timothy 2:4; Matthew 11:28-30; Revelation 22:17

III Conclusion

- 1. Will you follow the Light to God?
- 2. Will you enjoy the blessings of being in the Light
- 3. Will you overcome the obstacles that the devil places before you and serve God
- 4. Will you come now!

Sources: Sermon by Eugene Jenkins date unknown, Commentary on John by B. W. Johnson; Commentaries by Coffman on Matthew and Luke.