

# **“The True Light”**

## **John 1:4-9**

As we consider the birth of our Savior, and as we light candles in a little while, I want us to think about the light from the candle – how that light, albeit small, will chase the darkness away. The candle, and more specifically the light from that candle, represents a number of things in the Bible. In the Old Testament tabernacle and Temple, the only light within came from the Golden Candlestick that was in the Holy Place. This Golden Candlestick (Lampstand) represented Christ – not only as the Light to a lost and dying world, but more specifically, as the Light for the believer to guide us in our life. It shows, as we will see from the New Testament, the responsibility the child of God has of being “a” light to point people to “THE” Light.

Jesus came to chase the darkness away – the darkness of sin in this world. He has purposed us, as believers, to carry that light to a darkened world, blackened by sin. But, praise God, there is coming a time where that Light will once again be the only Light source needed for the believer.

### **I. HE CAME TO BRING LIGHT – JOHN 1:6-9**

#### ***A. The Light shines – vs. 4-5***

1. “In him” – in Christ
2. “Was life, and the life was the light of men”
  - a) Physically – in creation
  - b) Spiritually – in the new birth

### 3. When light shines, darkness flees – vs. 5

- a) Physically – light disperses darkness – it doesn't absorb it, and darkness doesn't absorb light – it is chased away by it
- b) Spiritually – the Light of Christ, the light of the gospel of Christ, is seen as running darkness off and replacing it

#### 2 Corinthians 4:4

<sup>4</sup> In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- c) "Comprehended it not" – did not receive it, did not lay hold of it. When Jesus came to take away the sins of the world, the "darkness," those in darkness, didn't "comprehend" it – they didn't receive it, they were run off by it

#### John 3:19–20

<sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

<sup>20</sup> For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

### ***B. The Light shown – vs. 6-8***

- 1. John the Baptist was one that "bore witness" of the Light – that presented Christ to the world
- 2. We still have the responsibility to make the Light known to the world – to make His

light shine

1 Timothy 2:4

<sup>4</sup> Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Titus 2:11

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

2 Peter 3:9

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

### ***C. The Light seen – vs. 9***

1. Jesus is seen as the “true Light” – this is speaking of his perfection, His truth – both living and written.
2. “Lighteth every man that cometh into the world – He has enough light to shine on all, and if it will be “comprehended” then salvation is given

## **II. WE ARE TO CARRY THE LIGHT – MATT. 5:14-16**

### ***A. Light is necessary***

Isaiah 9:2

<sup>2</sup> The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

John 8:12

<sup>12</sup> Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the**

light of life.

**B. Light is important or valuable**

**C. Light is sought after (speaking of the Word of God as well as Christ Himself)**

2 Peter 1:19

<sup>19</sup> We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

**III. HE WILL BE THE LIGHT – REV. 21:23-25; 22:5**

**A. Revelation 21:23-25**

1. The light of the sun and moon and stars is no more for the need of them to light the earth and to control the earth's seasons and gravity and so on are no more
2. Although we cannot comprehend this particular point, the light of all of the new earth will be the same as in heaven right now – God Himself, in the Person of the Lamb, in the Person of the Son
3. This is another indication that this New City is from eternity future, not the Millennium, for during that period the light of the sun and moon is still shining, and darkness still exists
4. This is the view that the Gospel of John had in mind when he recorded that Jesus was the "light of the world"

## **B. Revelation 22:5**

1. "There shall be no night there" – no night means no darkness, and with that is the idea that there won't be any sin or harm or evil
2. "They need no candle, neither light of the sun" – no needs like we have today because we will have a glorified body then and the need for the life-giving light source of the sun will be no more
3. "For the Lord God giveth them light" – the omnipresence of God throughout eternity, no matter where we are, will be all the light that is needed

### **Psalm 36:9**

<sup>9</sup> For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

### **Proverbs 4:18–19**

<sup>18</sup> But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

<sup>19</sup> The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

### **Isaiah 60:19–20**

<sup>19</sup> The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

<sup>20</sup> Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

Conclusion: Jesus was born and laid in a manger so we could have light – so we could be saved. We are to point people to that Light so that they can spend eternity with that Light in all its wonder.

Sadly, though, the vast majority of the world has no room in their heart for Jesus. As Bethlehem had no room for them, so the world still has no room for Him.

“Once more observe the earthly conditions. ‘There was not room for them in the inn.’ What was the inn? When we read that we may think the reference was to a caravansary, a hostel, or in our modern parlance, a hotel. That is not the meaning of ‘inn.’ There are two words, both translated ‘inn’ in the New Testament. There is the word pandacheion, which does mean a caravansary, a hostelry, a place with a host, and provisions, and apartments. But there is another word, kataluma, and it was merely an enclosure, just walls into which travelers might drive their cattle for the night, and in which sometimes there were apartments in which they themselves might rest; but no traveler could obtain food there. There was water, always, water, but no food, no host, no entertainment. There was no room even there. There was no room even in the enclosure for cattle.

“What happened then? In the supreme hour which permits of no delay, they had to find some outhouse to a dwelling; and there the Baby was born, and the mother laid It in a manger. No palace, no dwelling-place, no caravansary, no room even in the kataluma. He was born outside everything, even the place where cattle might be sheltered through the night. He was born and laid in a manger in some bleak outhouse, outside some

dwelling. So He came. The glory of it, the wonder of it. When He came He passed the court, and passed the palace, and passed the dwelling-place, and passed the inn, and passed the kataluma; and was born into this world so low down that no baby can ever be born lower." (G. Campbell Morgan)