

## Let There Be Light!

Texts: Genesis 1:1-3; I John 1:5

Have you ever heard the expression, “That certainly puts light on the subject” or “it came to light?”

Shortly before his premature death, the most famous country and western star of his time, Hank Williams, was in a limousine between two (what the world would call) attractive women in a very downcast mood. The women tried to cheer him up. One spoke up and said, “Why, Hank, you’re the one who sang, I Saw the Light!” He quickly answered, “Yeah, but there just ain’t no light.” There was and there is Light. He just sang about it, but never experienced it. We must come to the Light to see the light. Psalm 36:9: “For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.”

### I. GOD IS LIGHT.

II.

I John 1:5: “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.” Amen! There is no dark side of God. Psalm 119:68 simply and beautifully says, “Thou art good, and doest good....”

Speaking of Jesus, Hebrews 1:3 informs us, “Who being the Brightness of His Glory, and the Express Image of His Person....” In John 14:9b Jesus said, “... he that hath seen me hath seen the Father....” Jesus is God and is therefore the light of the world. John 8:12: “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.” John 9:5: “As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World.”

### II. GOD BROUGHT LIGHT INTO THE WORLD.

Genesis 1:1-3: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.” Notice there is no shape, only an empty void until the light comes. Jeremiah 4:23: “I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.”

### III. GOD IS CLOTHED IN LIGHT.

Psalm 104:2 affirms this is so: "Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain." Peter, James and John observed Jesus as He was transfigured before them. In an instant He took on his heavenly clothing. The modifying words were quite remarkable:

Matthew 17:2, "And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light."

Mark 9:3, "And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them."

Luke 9:29, "And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening."

Sixty-four years later John saw Jesus in His glory on the Isle of Patmos and he described Him brilliantly in Revelation 1:16b: "...and His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

#### IV. GOD CLOTHED MAN AND WOMAN WHOM HE LOVED IN LIGHT.

Genesis 1:27: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." God clothes Himself in a garment of light and since man was made in His image, we can see the epicenter of God's creation taking on the image of his Creator, i.e., "light." We strongly sense this is so because soon after Adam and Eve have committed the original sin, we read in Gen. 3:8-11a, "And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked?..." Something in the couple's appearance had changed. There appeared to be no physical clothing until after the fall, but there definitely appears to be some kind of covering that was noticeably gone. I would suggest that the "light" was turned off. Man is no longer in the light. In John 3:19 Jesus tells us, "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

#### V. THERE IS A COUNTERFEIT LIGHT.

When Lucifer fell, his direct assault came against Christ. Isaiah 14:12a: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!..." The name "Lucifer" means in Hebrew, "Son of the Morning" or "Day Star" which is the name of Christ (II Peter 1:19). II Corinthians 11:14, says, "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." Satan is the ultimate counterfeiter. And this traitorous distinction is reproduced in his followers as seen in Matthew 24:24, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." And

also in I John 4:3, “And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

Think of how many false religions incorporate the word “light” in their propaganda.

#### VI. THE FOLLY OF MAN-MADE LIGHT IS FUTILE AND FATAL.

Arrogant and fallen man tries to pick himself up without Christ. Isaiah 50:11 illustrates this: “Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.” It is a futile and fatal mistake to try to justify oneself, in essence, to walk in one’s own light. John 11:10: “But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.” If you don’t have the true Light of Life, you cannot create saving light. Psalm 44:3: “For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.” The story of The Emperor’s New Clothes makes a spiritual parable.

#### VII. IN CHRIST THE LIGHT COMES BACK ON.

John 1:4: “In him was life; and the life was the light of men. John 1:5: “And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.” Isaiah 9:2: “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.” Isaiah 60:1: “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.” I Thessalonians 5:5: “Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.” Psalm 34:5: “They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.” In John 12:46, Jesus said, “I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.” I love the poetic inspirational beauty of II Corinthians 4:6: “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

#### VIII. WHILE THE EARTHLY LIGHT DIMINISHES ON EARTH, THE FUTURE FOR THE CHILD OF GOD IS ONLY GETTING BRIGHTER.

Ecclesiastes 12:2a speaks of the inevitable failing and fading health: “While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened....” But Proverbs 4:18 promises, “But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”

CONCLUSION:

Ecclesiastes 11:7: “Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun.” C.S. Lewis said, “I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen not only because I see it but because by it I see everything else.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Johnny Pope". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.