

## *Being a Light*

*At the beginning of creation, the earth was without form, void and in darkness. The first thing God created was light!*

Gen 1:1-5 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

*His Word provides an illumination to walk without stumbling, to comprehend the meaning of Scripture. God's teaching is presented in a manner universally understood from most simple minded of this world to a genius in order to maximize coverage to prospective believers, potentially allowing all to know what our God is like and what He wants us to be.*

Ps 119:129-130 Your testimonies are wonderful; Therefore my soul keeps them. 130 ¶ The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

2 Cor 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*The entire Bible, both Old and the New Testament has many references and contrasts of light to darkness. Through these symbols, light usually refers to biblical truth while darkness refers to error or falsehood. Light also refers to holiness or purity, while in contrast, darkness refers to sin or wrongdoing embracing those who are unconverted and void of the truth. Darkness is generally linked to Satan and his evil spirits who rule this present, spiritually dark world as the "prince of the power of the air" who exists to promote rebellion against God.*

Eph 2:2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

*Despite Christ having expressly come to overcome that darkness, sadly, the sinners of this world love that darkness as stated in John 3:19-21:*

John 3:19-21 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

*On the other hand, light and life are qualities that are attributed to Yahshua, the Word of God, who shares His gospel message with those faithfully accepting that He came into this world to give eternal life through His light.*

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him

nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 ¶ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

*The God who created physical light in the universe is the same God who creates spiritual light in the heart of believers so that He can spiritually bring us from the kingdom of darkness of this world into His kingdom of light. That light is expressed as the knowledge of the glory of God which allows us to know that Yahshua is God who came to this earth as a man to pay the penalty of sin that no one else is capable of accomplishing.*

Col 1:12-14 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

*We are given the light of truth through His scripture to escape the darkness of the world. We need to read His Word to enable us to test or prove truth, to achieve understanding of how to truly honor God. Being a believer originates with our walk into the light of the truth when knowledge of the Lord will increasingly have become clearly revealed. Christians are to faithfully live in righteousness and purity while having nothing to do with the evil ways of Satan. We are not only to turn from those evil ways but it is also our responsibility to actively in thought, word and deed expose and oppose the ways of darkness. Thus it is light that makes everything visible; the light of God's word that exposes all evil.*

Eph 5:8-14 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. 11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. 13 But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. 14 Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."

*God showed Isaiah the coming of the Savior and indicated that the coming Age of the Messiah would be a time when the Lord would be a light for His people.*

Is 60:19-22 "The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory. 20 Your sun shall no longer go down, Nor shall your moon withdraw itself; For the LORD will be your everlasting light, And the days of your mourning shall be ended. 21 Also your people shall all be righteous; They shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified. 22 A little one shall become a thousand, And a small one a strong nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time."

*Yahshua also stated in John 8 and 12 that He himself is that light to the world and that it was the Father that sent Him into this world to teach us His truth so that we can turn to His righteousness and oppose the darkness.*

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 12:44-46 Then Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. 45 "And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. 46 "I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

*What is it that God calls us to do in this world? Answer: We must live a Godly life that becomes a convincing testimony of the saving power of Christ to bring glory to the Father.*

1 Peter 2:9-10 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

*The light referred to is Yahshua living in us which produces a complete change of character because of our repentance of sin. We cannot hide what He has given us and we must let that light shine brightly for all to see!*

Mt 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

*There is a song called "Be a Light" that shows numerous opportunities for our lights to shine: During war be at peace, when there is doubt just believe, when you do somebody wrong, make it right, in a time full of noise just listen, in a race you can't win just slow it down so don't hide in the dark – you were born to shine in a world full of hate, be a light!*

*It is this "new creation" or changed personality that shows people we have left our old worldly ways to become children of God, a feat only possible through God's grace! It is this grace which qualifies or empowers or authorizes us to obtain salvation and partake of the eternal inheritance through the death of His Son, otherwise, all that we would be entitled to receive on our own merits or lack thereof would be His wrath!*

Col 1:12-14 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Thess 5:4-10 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

*If we profess to have been living in a manner worthy of being saved while in fact our actions remained in gross disparity to that assertion, we lie to ourselves. Our "lie" refers to our failure to follow the truth of God's word. God is absolutely perfect, therefore nothing in His character would challenge His truth or holiness. With that said, a believer would habitually walk in the light (truth and holiness) and not in darkness (falsehood and sin). This walk, our spiritual righteous behavior, results in a continual cleansing from sin. Through God's consummate planning, a demonstrable product of His love for us, He covers us: Even if we do fall, the Lord continually forgives if we have displayed a genuine, repentant attitude.*

1 John 1:5-10 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

*So we see that God from the beginning made the light and divided the light from the darkness. God then brought the light of His truth through His son, Yahshua and once again will divide the light (His truth) from darkness (evil) in the future eternal kingdom where He will become the source of light for all who dwell with Him!*

Rev 21:23-27 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. 24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. 25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Rev 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

*All scripture quoted is NKJV unless otherwise noted.*

*Proverb to ponder:*

Proverbs 6:23 For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life.

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