

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 89

From Darkness into the Light of Life...Jesus



Jesus is the Light

2015

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

*If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. ***(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."****



LESSON



Thanks to God our Father Who brought us from darkness to the Light of Jesus when we believed in Him as our Savior and Lord. Whoever believes in Him will have eternal life. ***John 3:15-21 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send the***

Son into the world to judge the world but that the world might be saved through Him. (18) He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (19) This is the judgment, that the **Light has come into the world**, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. (20) For **everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light** for fear that his deeds will be exposed. (21) But he who practices the truth **comes to the Light**, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been produced in God."

Notice in verse 19 that there are people who are in the darkness that STAY in the darkness because their deeds are evil. They won't come to the Light. They hate the light. They don't want to come to the Light. This is consistent with the letter of 1 John in that both darkness and hate are connected.

Then there are other people who were in the darkness but come into the Light and nothing more is said, and in particular these people are not said to go from the Light back into the darkness. This is impossible in God's universe, which is awesome because we are talking here about believing in Christ and we are talking about having eternal life and we are talking about never losing eternal life or the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus. So when we say that you can never go back away from the Light into darkness that means you cannot lose your salvation! [John 8:12](#) "Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, 'I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of (eternal) life.'"

The movement is always from darkness into the Light of Life...Jesus

This is John writing and this is Jesus talking in [John](#) and Jesus is saying, "...that whoever becomes a follower of Jesus WILL NOT WALK IN DARKNESS." Walking in darkness is not having fellowship. Whoever becomes a follower of Jesus, a believer, will always have fellowship with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ.



Now, who shows up to challenge Jesus on this point about the Light? It is none other than the Pharisees who are unbelievers. He is saying these things to unbelievers so they can realize that they need to believe in Him, Jesus Christ, in order to never walk in darkness again. [John 8:13](#) "So the Pharisees said to Him, 'You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not true.' (14)

Jesus answered, 'Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. (15) You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. (16) Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. (17) In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. (18) I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.'"

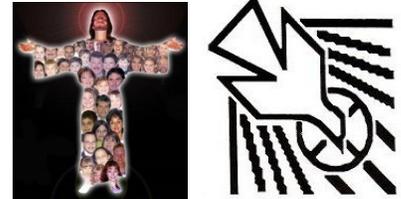
The whole thing is evangelistic. He wants His fellow Jews to believe that He is the Son of God but these stubborn Pharisees won't have anything to do with Him...they outright reject Him and it is very sad. [John 8:23-24](#) "And He was saying to them (the unbelieving Pharisees), 'You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. (24) Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for **unless you**

believe that I am He (the promised Messiah), you will die in your sins.”
 In fact all of the Gospel of **John** up to the end of **chapter 12** is evangelistic. It is all about getting the Jewish people to believe in Jesus Christ.

In **Chapter 13 of the Gospel of John** starts something new. That something new is Jesus revealing basically three amazing new things:

- The Church (which is all those who become believers after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus up unto the present)
- A new commandment
- And the Holy Spirit

Jesus stops calling Himself the Light at the end of **John chapter 12**. He never brings that image back again. Starting in **chapter 13** it's about the church and the Holy Spirit.



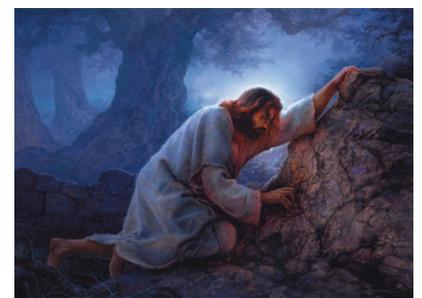
Just to get your spiritual goose bumps going, guess what? The last reference to the Light in **1 John** is in **1 John 2:11**. Then we get in the very next verse (**1 John 2:12**) a statement about the church. **“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake.”** Then things are off in a new direction, and who comes into view starting in **verse 20**? The Holy Spirit! He's not in view in **1 John 1:1** through **2:11** but in that section **John** uses the imagery of darkness and the Light.

So you have a section in the **Gospel of John (chapters 1-12)** where we have the imagery of darkness and Light and it is all about evangelism. Then you have a section after that where the Holy Spirit comes on the scene and it's about the uniqueness of the Church Age.

This is just like what we have in the beginning section of **1 John** where John uses the imagery of darkness and Light, and then the rest of the letter where the Holy Spirit is present even though He was not present earlier.

So.....when darkness and the Light of Christ are on the scene, it's **EVANGELISTIC**.

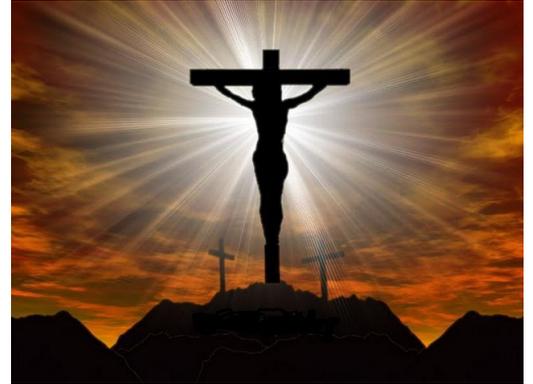
Let's just read though the closing section of **chapter 12**, the last time that Jesus refers to Himself as the Light in the **Gospel of John**, shall we? **John 12:27-50**
“Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour (the suffering of bearing all sin on the cross)? But for this purpose I



came to this hour. (28) Father, glorify Your name.' Then a voice came out of heaven: 'I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.' (29) So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, 'an angel has spoken to Him.' (30) Jesus answered and said, 'This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. (31) Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world (the devil) will be cast out.

(32) And I, if I am lifted up from the earth (on the cross), will draw all men to Myself.' (33) But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die. (34) The crowd then answered Him, 'We have heard out of the Law that the Christ is to remain forever; and how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? 'Who is this Son of Man?' (35) So Jesus said to them, '**For a little while longer**

the Light (Jesus) is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. (36) While you have the Light, believe in the Light (Jesus), so that you may become sons of Light.'



These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them (unbelieving Jews and Pharisees). (37) But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they did not believe in Him. (38) This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: 'LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?' (39) For this reason they could not

believe, for Isaiah said again, (40) 'HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE HARDENED THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED AND I HEAL THEM.' (41) These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him (Jesus). (42) Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; (43) for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

(44) And Jesus cried out and said, 'He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me. (45) He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me. (46) **I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.** (47) If anyone hears My

sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. (48) He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. (49) For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak. (50) I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me."

**The movement is always from darkness to the Light of Life...Jesus
It is NEVER from the Light back into the darkness. NEVER.**

How about other places that show this? Let's look at some more.



Luke 1:76-79 "And you, child (John the Baptist), will be called the prophet of the **Most High (Our Lord Jesus Christ)**; for you will go on BEFORE THE LORD TO PREPARE HIS WAYS; (77) to give to His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins, (78) because of the tender mercy of our God, with which **the Sunrise** from on high will visit us, (79) **TO SHINE UPON THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH**, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Saul of Tarsus encounters Jesus on the road to Damascus in Acts 26:15- 18. "And I (Saul) said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. (16) But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; (17) rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, (18) to open their eyes so that they may turn **from darkness to light** and from the dominion of Satan to God, that **they may receive forgiveness of sins** and an inheritance among those who **have been sanctified by faith in Me.**"



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Here are more examples in the Bible:

Eph 5:6-14 "Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of

these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience (unbelievers). (7) Therefore do not be partakers with them; (8) **for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord;** walk as children of Light (9) (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), (10) trying to learn (from God's WORD) what is pleasing to the Lord. (11) Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; (12) for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. (13) But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. (14) For this reason it says, 'Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'"



Notice that all the believer has to do is wake up and Christ is shining on you. Christ never stopped shining on you; you were just asleep so it did you no good! Col 1:13-14 "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, (14) in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Keep in mind that in 1 John, John links living in the Light with believers who always have fellowship with the Father and the Son and links walking in the darkness with unbelievers who do not have fellowship with the Father and the Son.

The movement is always from darkness to the Light of Life...Jesus. It is NEVER from the Light back into the darkness...NEVER.

1 Thess 5:4-5 says "But you, brethren, are **not in darkness**, that the day would overtake you like a thief; (5) for you are all **sons of light** and sons of day."

1 Peter 2:9-10 "But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may declare the excellences of **Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;** (10) for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY."

In the epistles, the darkness is always reserved for the fallen angels and for the unbeliever, never for the believer...NEVER.

2 Peter 2:17 "These (unbelievers) are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved."

Jude 12-16 "These are the men (unbelievers) who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted; (13) wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever. (14) It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, 'Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, (15) to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.'"



Do you see, kids, the importance of reaching out to your unbelieving family members and friends with the Gospel message that Jesus is the Savior and ONLY way into heaven? Give them John 3:16, 3:36, Acts 16:31 and other Gospel verses. Ask your parents to help you find them in the Bible.

Along with Jesus we wouldn't want anyone we knew to perish in darkness. We want to lead them as Jesus did to the LIGHT of the WORLD and of ETERNAL LIFE...JESUS.

Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on 3-5-2013
Lighthouse Bible Church
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