

# The Gospel According to John

## “The Light of the World”

John 8:12-30



## John 8:12-14

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 life.”

So the Pharisees said to Him, “You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not true.”

Jesus answered and said to them,  
“Even if I testify 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.”

## John 8:15-20

“You judge according to the flesh; I am not judging anyone.

But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent Me. Even in your law it has been written that the testimony of two men is true. I am He who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me.”

So they were saying to Him, “Where is Your Father?”

Jesus answered, “You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.” These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.

## John 8:21-24

Then He said again to them, “I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come.”

So the Jews were saying, “Surely He will not kill Himself, will He, since He says, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come’?”

And He was saying to them, “You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world.

Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins;  
for unless you believe that I am He,  
you will die in your sins.”

## **John 8:25-27**

So they were saying to Him, “Who are You?”

Jesus said to them, “What have I been saying to you from the beginning? I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world.”

They did not realize that He had been speaking to them about the Father.

## **John 8:28-30**

So Jesus said, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.”  
As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him.

# Main Idea

Jesus is the Light of the world who gives life to all who believe in Him and dispels the darkness for all who will follow Him.

# The Light of the World

What is the problem?





# **What is the problem?**

The world is swallowed up in darkness.

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# What is this darkness?

## **John 12:35**

So Jesus said to them,

“For a little while longer the Light 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.”

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**It is ignorance and confusion about life!**

# What is this darkness?

**Isaiah 8:19-20**

When they say to you, “Consult the mediums  
and the spiritists who whisper and mutter,”  
should not a people consult their God?  
Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?

To the law and to the testimony!  
If they do not speak according to this word,  
it is because they have no dawn.



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They don't even have the light of dawn!

# What is this darkness?

**Isaiah 8:21-22**

They will pass through the land hard-pressed and famished,  
and it will turn out that when they are hungry,  
they will be enraged and curse their king and their God  
as they face upward.

Then they will look to the earth, and behold,  
distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish;  
and they will be driven away into darkness.

This darkness is not only ignorance and confusion but the disorder, disruption, fracture, turmoil and even death that people experience when they turn away from God and walk in the corrupted and sinful ways of the world.

# **What is the problem?**

The world is swallowed up in darkness.

**Hearts are darkened by sin.**

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Why would people walk in this darkness?



**John 3:19**

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that the Light has come into the world,  
and men loved the darkness rather than the Light,  
for their deeds were evil.

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It is not just that the world around them was swallowed up in darkness, but that they loved the darkness swallowing them up!

But this is the condition of all who deny God!

## **Romans 1:21**

For even though they knew God,  
they did not honor Him as God or give thanks,  
but they became futile in their speculations,  
and their foolish heart was darkened.

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## **Ephesians 4:17-19**

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord,  
that you walk no longer just as the nations also walk,  
in the futility of their mind,  
being darkened in their understanding,  
excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance  
that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;  
and they, having become callous,  
have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice  
of every kind of impurity with greediness.



# What is the problem?

The world is swallowed up in darkness.

Hearts are darkened by sin.

The way to God is lost.

## **John 8:21**

Then He said again to them,  
“I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin;  
where I am going, you cannot come.”

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# Why?

**John 8:23-24**

And He was saying to them,  
“You are from below, I am from above;  
you are of this world, I am not of this world.

**Therefore** I said to you that **you will die in your sins;**  
for unless you believe that I am He,  
you will die in your sins.”

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“You are from below, I am from above;  
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Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins;

for **unless you believe that I am He,**  
you will die in your sins.”

The way to God is lost due to sin,  
and it cannot be found again  
apart from Christ!

# The Light of the World

What is the problem?

What is the solution?





**What is the solution?**

God's promised Light.

**John 8:12**

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying,  
**“I am the Light of the world.”**

God promised that He would send  
His Light into the world!

# God promised this Light!

Isaiah 49:6

He says,

“It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant  
To raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the preserved ones of Israel;  
I will also make You a light of the nations  
So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

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# God promised this Light!

## Isaiah 60:1 and 19-20

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

No longer will you have the sun for light by day,  
Nor for brightness will the moon give you light;  
But you will have the LORD for an everlasting light,  
And your God for your glory.

Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon wane;  
For you will have the LORD for an everlasting light,  
And the days of your mourning will be over.

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And your God for your glory.

Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon wane;  
For you will have the LORD for an everlasting light,

**And the days of your mourning will be over.**

Jesus is the promised Light  
of the LORD, who has come into  
the world to deliver His people  
from the darkness!



# **Look again!**

## **Isaiah 60:19**

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# Look again!

1 John 1:5

This is the message we have heard  
from Him and announce to you,

that **God is Light**,

and in Him there is no darkness at all.

“Then Jesus spoke again to them saying,

**I am the Light of the world.**”

Jesus' announcement,  
“I am the Light” is not simply  
a statement about His illuminating  
abilities but a declaration of His  
identity as the promised Christ,  
*God come in the flesh.*

# What is the solution?

God's promised Light.

Jesus' promise of light.

## **John 8:12**

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying,

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This is an implicit *promise* of light for  
those who will follow Him.

Jesus *is* the Light who promises  
to shine His light so that all who  
follow Him will no longer need  
to walk in the darkness.

His words are what give this light!

**Psalm 119:130**

The unfolding of Your words gives light;  
It gives understanding to the simple.

If you want understanding,  
you must listen to and walk in  
the words of Christ.

# What is the solution?

God's promised Light.

Jesus' promise of light.

**Jesus' gift of life.**

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but **will have the Light of life.**”

The Light of life is the light  
that is the *source* of life.

The Light of life is the light  
that is the *way* of life.

Jesus is the Source and Way of life  
and promises to give His life to all  
who will believe and follow Him!

# How does He give His life?

**John 8:28-29**

So Jesus said, “When you lift up the Son of Man,  
then you will know that I am He.”



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# The Light of the World

What is the problem?

What is the solution?

What is the response?



# First, how did the Pharisee's respond?

**John 8:13-14**

So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not true."

In their disbelief, they dismissed His testimony over a legal or even logical technicality.

Jesus answered and said to them,  
"Even if I testify 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."

# First, how did the Pharisee's respond?

John 8:13-14

“You judge according to the flesh; I am not judging anyone.”

They assessed things according to appearances and assumptions about the way they thought things ought to be!

But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent Me.”

**What is the right response?**

**Believe in Him!**

John 8:24

**“Unless you believe that I am He,  
you will die in your sins.”**

John 3:16

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.

To believe in Jesus is to entrust  
your life to Him -- not just your  
religious life or your future life  
but *all* your life!



# **What is the right response?**

Believe in Him!

**Follow Him!**

**John 8:12**

“I am the Light of the world;

**he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness,**

but will have the Light of life.”

If you don't want to walk in the darkness,  
*you must* follow Jesus!

To follow Jesus is to put feet to your  
faith and walk in the way that He  
illuminates for you in His Word.

## **Concluding Questions:**

Are you entrusting all your life to Jesus?

Are you walking in the way that Jesus  
has lit for you in His Word?