

Jesus is the Light of the World 2.0

John 9

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John: The I AM (*ego eimi*) statements of Jesus. From the Hebrew word for God, Yahweh!

- I AM the **Bread** of Life. (John 6)
- Come to me ... thirsty..., and I will give you **Living Water**. (John 7)
- I AM the **Light** of the World. (John 8)

We are seeing a growing rift between belief and unbelief, dark and light. From the time of the feeding of the five thousand to the Feast of Tabernacles, the rift has now become an open breach. Not only had many of Jesus' disciples abandoned his cause (6:66), but the religious leaders also were becoming actively hostile (7:32). The last few months of Jesus' life were filled with controversy and with attempts by the priests and scribes to trap him by his words or actions. Jesus, however, being fully aware of their intentions, maintained his usual ministry and became bolder in his resistance.

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12:

Healing of the man born blind. (Luke 18:38-43, Mark 8:22-25).

¹ As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. ² "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?"

³ "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. ⁴ We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. ⁵ But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. ⁷ He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent"). So, the man went and washed and came back seeing! (John 9:1-7)

1. Jesus Heals... the event!

a. Jesus brought new light (realization and correction) – to the disciples...

Who sinned...? The disciple's question was based on Ex 34:7, which the Jews construed to mean that if a person suffered from any ailment, it must have been because his parents or grandparents had committed some sin against God. Jesus refused to accept either alternative. He looked on the

man's plight as an opportunity to do God's work, not as a punishment or as a matter of irrational chance.

b. Jesus healed physically –the medical reality (Mt 9:27-31; 12:22; 15:30; 21:14; et al.)

This "sign" was an outstanding case because (1) the man had been born blind; (2) the sign was related to the issue of fate, raised by the disciples; and (3) it illustrates the origination and development of faith, a theme of this gospel.

c. Jesus healed spiritually - bringing a dawning of spiritual light.

Jesus changes our perspective, position, purpose.

2. Jesus Exposes...The Witnesses to the Light

vv. 8-34.

“The effects of the miracle are described vividly by the responses of four groups or individuals: (1) the neighbors, (2) the Pharisees, (3) the parents, and (4) the man himself.”

3. Jesus Reveals...The Result, seeing the Light

vv. 35-41.

a. Jesus reveals spiritual darkness.

What is spiritual darkness?

For the world:

Spiritual darkness is a result of sin (Genesis 3). Humans are born into spiritual darkness and are by nature spiritually blind. Much like being in a dark room or outside with no light, there is much stumbling along, not knowing what is ahead or having any sense of direction or possible danger.

The world considers darkness as normal and often even preferable because of a sense of ignorance and willful sin. Romans 3:23 tells us *“All have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God.”*

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Spiritual darkness is choosing to walk and live apart from the self-revelation of God through His Word and through Jesus Christ. There is one answer to spiritual darkness, and that is the Light of Jesus Christ. The Glory of God revealed in the Son. Jesus is *“the visible image of the invisible God”* (Colossians 1:15).

For the believer:

We have the freedom to choose to continue to trust Christ with our transformation into the likeness of His Son or choose to go on our own path. This is sin, rebellion, and far too often “normal” for a lot of Christians. CAUTION: I am NOT talking about losing your salvation. Jesus paid the price, once and for all. When we trust in Him as our Lord and Savior, we become His child, and our salvation is in His hands. Nothing can remove us from His hand (John 10:29).

We may, like any wayward child, choose to run, hide, or try to trick God. The Bible clearly teaches there is nowhere we can go that God is not with us... but in your foolishness, we often try. In His Loving Kindness, He allows us to turn from Him, run, or rebel. He is ALWAYS the Father waiting for the prodigal son to return.

1 John 1:5b ***"...God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all."***

Run to the Light, walk in the Light, pray for the Light, live in the Light, seek the Light!

Compare Light versus Dark:

Love – hate

Joy – sorrow

Peace – war

Patience – impatience

Kindness – cruelty

Goodness – badness (evil)

Gentleness – harsh

Meekness – proud

Self-Control – out of control (uncontrollable)

b. Jesus reveals the Father.

So Jesus explained, ***"I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does."*** (John 5:19). Jesus reveals our Path.

We are in a war with darkness versus Light. ***"For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places."*** (Ephesians 6:12)

As believers, we have the Spirit of God reigning in our lives to ward off the debilitating effects of Satan's power and the world's influence ([1 John 4:13](#)). John tells us, ***"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in Him, and he in God"*** ([1 John 4:15](#)). Satan wars within and without us. His weapons are deceitful and crafty schemes to make us doubt and stumble ([2 Corinthians 2:11](#); [Ephesians 4:14](#)). Yet God has provided us with powerful weapons to ward off his flaming arrows ([Ephesians 6:10-18](#)). As believers we can overcome the evil one and remain in the Light and never become spiritually blind. For, in truth, Jesus has given us His wonderful promise: ***"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life"*** ([John 8:12](#)).

The message of the arrows?

The Message of the Light of God's Word?