



**“For Ye are the Light of the World”**

**Matthew 5:14-16**

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- Matt. 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.”

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- 1Cor. 1:18-25 - “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. 20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. 22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”

# “For Ye are the Light of the World”

- What does it mean to be the light of the world?
- Who constitutes the light of the world?
- Where is the light of the world to shine?
- Why must the light of the world shine?

## What Does It Mean To Be The Light Of The World?

- Light is essential for physical life
- Light is critical for spiritual and eternal life. God is the light which gives spiritual life.
  - 1John 1:5 - “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.”
  - 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...”

## What Does It Mean To Be The Light Of The World?

- While in this world, Jesus was the spiritual light.
  - John 1:4-5, 14 - “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. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”
  - 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 9:5 - “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

## What Does It Mean To Be The Light Of The World?

- We have been called into His light
  - 1Peter 2:9 - “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”

# Who Constitutes The Light Of The World?

- Every Christian is in Christ
  - Gal. 3:26-27 - “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
- The light is in Christ; therefore, everyone who is in Christ is in the light
  - Matt. 5:14 - “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

# Who Constitutes The Light Of The World?

- Phil. 2:14-15 - “Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world”

# Who Constitutes The Light Of The World?

- We are transformed by the light in Christ
  - Rom. 12:2 - “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”
  - 2Cor. 5:15 - “And He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again... 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

# Who Constitutes The Light Of The World?

- The evil are not only out of the light, but are also afraid of the light
  - John 3:20-21 - “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.”

# Where Is The Light Of The World To Shine?

- The light must not be hidden
  - Matt. 5:15-16 - “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.”

# Where Is The Light Of The World To Shine?

- The lamp shines where it is placed; it seldom gets to choose where it will shine.
- The purpose of the lamp is to provide light for all who are near, not just select individuals or those we think might like the light; it is for all
- This also forbids Christians from hiding their light because of a misguided, over-developed, or erring sense of humility
- When Christians hide their light, they hide God from the eyes of the world
- The light must shine where there is darkness. Often professed Christians only shine their light in the church building

# Where Is The Light Of The World To Shine?

- The purpose of the light is to dispel darkness
  - John 12:46 - “I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.”
- The darkness will object to being dispelled
  - John 3:20 - “For everyone practicing evil hates the light...”
- The darkness does not have the power to dispel the light
  - John 1:5 - “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

# Where Is The Light Of The World To Shine?

- The best way to resist the darkness is to expose it
  - Eph. 5:8-13 - “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.”

# Why Must The Light Of The World Shine?

- Our shining as lights in the world is essential to God's plan to save the world.
  - 1John 1:6-7 - "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."
  - 1John 2:6 - "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."
  - Eph. 2:10 - "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works..."

# Why Must The Light Of The World Shine?

- We shine to glorify God, not ourselves
  - “Glorify” - doxazo: to make glorious, adorn with luster, clothe with splendor; honor, magnify (Strong's)
  - Matt. 23:5-7 - “But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. 6 They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, 7 greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, Rabbi, Rabbi.”

# Why Must The Light Of The World Shine?

- Matt. 6:2-5, 16 - "Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. 5 And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward... 16 Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward."

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