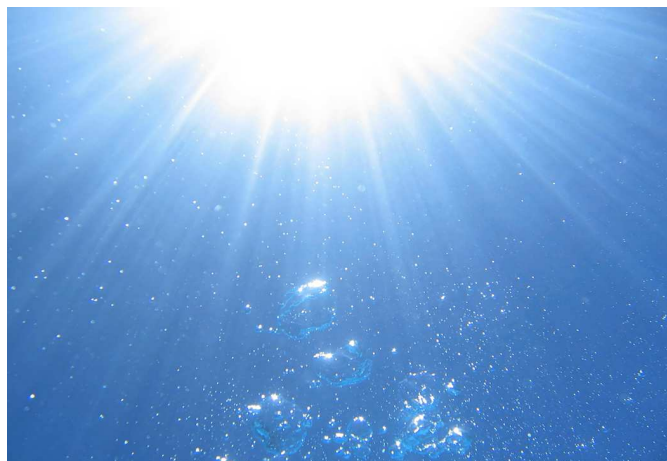


'The Son of God and the Lord of Glory Series'

Sermons in the Gospel of John

Message 3 - The Eternal Light

John 1: 4b - 5



The image of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Light, is one of the great images of the Scriptures, and after the concept of life, John then speaks of Christ as the Light. Without Christ, the Light of the World, we find ourselves in spiritual darkness. To be in spiritual darkness is to be lost, separated from God. Jesus is the Light of the World, and all that the darkness threatens and keeps us in, is removed in His presence. As He shines in wondrous light the darkness is vanquished forever. We can see three things:

1. Christ is the TIMELESS Light (v4) - Well, the first thing that you need to see is, that by speaking of Him in this way, John is saying that Christ is the One who knows God (the Triune relationship) and also that Christ is the One who makes Him known. As Christ came, His light shone before men. The beauty of this title as the light has immense significance in that the light has shone throughout the old era, it has shone, but is also shining still. Once again the reality is that John is underlining the deity of Christ once again, that Jesus truly is the Son of God.

2. Christ is the TRANSPARENT Light (v5) - The Lord Jesus Christ in His sinless perfection shines in transparent wonder before us, no sin is found in Him. As He came into this world He exposed the darkness, and the sad reality of this verse states that the darkness did not comprehend it. When Christ came and shone forth in His incarnation, the darkness did not like it. In the brilliance of His light, He exposed, and continues to expose the reality of man's, our situation. Yet, the reality is that in the presence of the perfect and pure, glorious light of the Son of God, all distinctions fade. Men are rendered insignificant in the light of His perfection and righteousness. His coming exposes us to the light, and in the presence of the light, we feel our darkness, we feel our sin. In the face of that truth, in the presence of Jesus Christ's glorious light, what will your reaction be?

3. Christ is the TRIUMPHANT Light (v5) - The final part of verse five has caused some discussion between scholars and commentators over many years, in the sense of the meaning of the word we see here as comprehend. My personal understanding and preference looks to the reality that the darkness could not overcome the light. Nowhere is this seen in more glorious power than on the cross. When the light came, when Christ came, He would as the brilliant, glorious light seizes the victory that would ultimately destroy Satan's realm of darkness. At the point when Satan thought he had prevailed in the darkness of Calvary, the reality was, that Christ was triumphant! The light had overcome. Colossians 2:15, *'Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.'* The Light of the Word, Jesus Christ the Son of God, is also the victorious Saviour of the World. The darkness could not overcome Him, the light shines in glorious splendour, and now He is the risen, exalted, Supreme and Sovereign Christ.



Penzance Baptist Church

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