



The Light of Life

Lets Go For A Walk

In this passage John uses the word “walk” as a wonderful metaphor to describe every person’s journey in life. There are only two options: light or darkness. What we say, is NOT as important as what God says about life and more specifically—our life.

Also see Matthew 6:22

A. God is Light 1 John 1:5

- 1. We’ve heard:** John makes it clear that what he is about to share with his readers IS the message that the Apostles heard directly from Jesus.
- 2. The message:**
 - a. New Testament:** The message is that God is ‘light.’ The Greek word here is ‘phos’ which means the essence of light. It is the perfect metaphor for God: Light makes clear and is understood as the source of truth. John uses ‘light’ and ‘truth’ interchangeably.
 - b. Old Testament:** In the OT, light has to do with finding the path. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" *Isa 9:2*. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." *Psa 119:105*. The basic connection in the OT is that the ‘light’ of God shows His people the way for their feet—the path of life!
- 3. The message clarified:** “God is light and in Him is NO darkness at all.” Positive truth followed by negative implication. There is NO evil in God.

B. Walk in the Light 1 John 1:6-7

- 1. Walking in darkness: (:6)** Walking in darkness refers to an intentional, habitual lifestyle. It refers to the way one is by inner decision and outward action—a style of life that is ungodly. The term contrasts the expressed nature of God with a life void of light. What may be happening is either delusion or denial—or both.
- 2. Walking in the light: (:7) Results in...**
 - a. Fellowship:** But if we walk in the light, that is, the kind of light that reflects godliness, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another. When we make it a habit or lifestyle to intentionally live in such a way that imitates God’s ways, then even our relationships with others finds a health and wholeness that is impossible when we function in an ungodly fashion.
 - b. Cleansing:** The Greek term for ‘purifies’ is in the present tense, which denotes ongoing action, rather than a point of time or one single cleansing. So, the cleansing is present and continuous. The meaning is beyond the mere forgiveness of sin, but it includes the removal of sin as well.

(1) Confession and cleansing 1 John 1:8-10

These three verses describe a progression of denial regarding sin. These verses also reveal the bright lights of Scripture that illuminate and uncover our condition. Best of all, they reveal the goodness of our Lord to provide a solution that is adequate for all sin. They address the inner problem and pollution of sin as well as the numerous expressions of sin in our thoughts, words, and actions.

1 John 1:5-10 (NKJV)

: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.

:6 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.

:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.