

John 1 part 3

We have seen in verses 1-4 the doctrine of Christ's pre-existence, His deity, that He is the Creator, Jesus *is* life.

I. JESUS IS THE LIGHT

- 4 • **In him was life; and the life was the light of men.**
• "Life"

In biblical perspective, life flows from the living Father through the Son (his agent in creation and redemption) into a world thirsting for "real" life (see **Jn 6:57**).

(Baker's Encyclopedia of the Bible)

- 5 **And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.**

What is meant by the phrase, "*light of men*"? **What "Light" is to the World physically, Jesus is to the World spiritually.**

- A. It Exposes Truth
- B. It Dispels Darkness
- C. Without it, Sight is Impossible

Lk 2:25–32., Isa 42

Thy word *is* a lamp (נֵר) - "ner" = *flame, candle*) unto my feet, And a light (אוֹר "oor") unto my path. (Ps 19:105)

- "The darkness comprehended it not"

The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, *by* the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. - Matt 4:15,16 (from Isa 9:1,2)

Isaiah calls it "אוֹר גָּדוֹל" - "oor gadol". **This is a BIG DEAL.**

Matthew calls it "φῶς μέγα" - "Phos mega".

John 3 19-21 **And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.**

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. - John 12:46

II. JOHN - THE WITNESS BEARER

- 6 **There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.**
7 **The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.**
8 **He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.**
9 **That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.**

What is meant by the phrase, "*which lighteth every man...*"?

The common light of nature "*From this light the rays are diffused over all mankind, as I have already said. For we know that men have this peculiar excellence which raises them above other animals, that they are endued with reason and intelligence, and that they carry the distinction between right and wrong engraven on their conscience. There is no man, therefore, whom some perception of the eternal light does not reach.*" - Calvin

- This *light* is speaking of general revelation, which only condemns us before God, so that we see our accountability, our sinfulness, and that we are "without excuse".
- Romans 1:16-25 Parallels this idea.

II. JESUS' RECEPTION

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

- Isaiah 53:1-3

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word was made 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.

- This Light - The Word, took on flesh!
- Only begotten (μονογενής - "Mono-genais" = *only, one of a kind, unique, alone, - begotten*)
 Are not we sons of God? Yes. We are born of the Spirit, but we are officially **adopted**.

[Rom 8:15](#) For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of [adoption](#), whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

[Rom 8:23](#) And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the [adoption](#), *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

[Rom 9:4](#) Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the [adoption](#), and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of *God*, and the promises;

[Gal 4:5](#) To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the [adoption](#) of sons.

[Eph 1:5](#) Having predestinated us unto the [adoption](#) of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

- Full of grace and truth
1.) GRACE - Jesus could have come like unto "the death angel", but He did not. He could have come to condemn and destroy everything and everyone. He would have been totally **just** in doing so. But He did not. He came to die in our place. -Jn 3:17
2.) TRUTH - Satan is a liar, and the father of it. Sometimes the truth hurts - but it is better to be made free by the truth, than to be kept in bondage by a lie. -Jn 8:32

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.