

# The Light of the World

## In this Series...

1. We will learn that light and darkness are different worlds that compete and conflict with each other.
2. We will learn that God is light, and Christians can live in, and shine forth, the light of God's love.

## God is the Light of the Creation

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.* - Genesis 1:1-3

The earth was:

- formless
- empty
- dark

God said:

- "let there be light"
- the light is good
- the light is to be separated from the darkness

## God Was the Light of the Exodus

*"When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." <sup>18</sup> So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt ready for battle.*

*<sup>20</sup> After leaving Sukkoth they camped at Etham on the edge of the desert. <sup>21</sup> By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. <sup>22</sup> Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.* - Exodus 13:17-22

God led through the desert by...

The light represented...

- God's presence
- God's direction
- God's protection

## Jesus is the Light of the World (John 8:12-30)

### Prophecies:

*"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."* - Isaiah 9:2

*"...the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."* - Matthew 4:16-17

*"...because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven <sup>79</sup> to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."* - Luke 1:78-79

*"For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."* - Luke 2:30-32

### Three Incredible Claims:

*"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "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

- "I am the light of the world."
- "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness."
- "Whoever follows me... will have the light of life."

## The Challenge

*"This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin."* - 1 John 1:5-7

## Personal Application

- A childhood memory of being in a dark place...
- I associate darkness with...
- I associate light with...
- Personally, to me Christ's claim means...

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The earth was:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

God said:

- "let there be light"
- the light is \_\_\_\_\_
- the light is to be \_\_\_\_\_ from the darkness

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The light represented...

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- "I am the light of the world."
- "Whoever follows me will never walk in \_\_\_\_\_."
- "Whoever follows me... will have the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

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