

## I Am the Light of the World John 9:3-5

### Introduction:

We are beginning today to look at a series of lessons on the “I am” statements of Jesus so that we can gain a better understanding of who our Savior truly is. Jesus makes 18 of these “I am” statements, but for our purposes in this series, we will look at 7 of them in 6 different lessons.

First, we will look at how Jesus is called and referred to as the “light.” Secondly, we will look at a characteristic of light and notice the true meaning of the statement made by Jesus. And finally, we will look at how this statement is used to describe all disciples today.

### I. Notice some introductory remarks about this “I am” statement of Jesus.

- A. Jesus uses this phrase in two situations.
  - 1. John 8:1-12 (Woman accused by many of adultery)
  - 2. John 9:1-12 (Jesus heals a man who was born blind)
  - 3. In both instances, Jesus is giving a particular idea to those who were there.
    - a. The idea was: follow Me to see how to live your life.
    - b. To the adulterous woman: follow Me and sin no more.
    - c. Concerning the blind man: no one sinned so that this man was born blind.
- B. There are also two other places in the Bible that refer to God and Jesus as the light.
  - 1. Jn. 12:46 - I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.
  - 2. I Jn. 1:5-7 - 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.
  - 3. In fact, even the Word of God is referred to as “a light.”
    - a. Ps. 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
    - b. II Pet. 1:19-21 - And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; {20} knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, {21} for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- C. It was prophesied that Christ would come into this world to bring light to this world.

1. **Mt. 4:15-16** - (Prophecy of Isaiah - **Is. 9:1-2**) - The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: {16} The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.
2. **Lk. 1:79** - (Prophecy of Zacharias concerning Jesus) - To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
3. **Lk. 2:32** - (words of Simeon when he sees Jesus in the temple) - A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.
4. When Jesus says that He is “**the light of the world**,” He is referring, at least to some degree, to the prophecies that were spoken concerning Him.

## II. Notice the meaning of this statement by Jesus.

- A. The main characteristic of light is that it gives us the ability to see.
  1. When we walk with some form of light in the room, we will not stumble or run into something; this is because we can see.
  2. However, when we walk in the dark, we are more likely to fall over something because we did not see it in our way.
  3. In the same manner, if we follow the “light of the world,” we will not stumble when it comes to our faith; but rather, we will be obedient to what His commands.
  4. **Jn. 11:9-10** (Jesus has just found out about the sickness and death of Lazarus and that the people want to stone Him in the town of Lazarus) - **Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. {10} But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."**
- B. The opposite of light is darkness, and all throughout the Scriptures, there is a constant battle between light and darkness.
  1. This battle between light and darkness is used to symbolize the battle between good and evil.
    - a. It is important to note that we can be good or evil, but no both.
    - b. **Eph. 6:12** - **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**
  2. Those who practice evil, love darkness and hate the light.
    - a. **Jn. 3:19-21** - **And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. {20} 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.**

- b. They love the nighttime and darkness because no one can see them commit their evil acts.
- C. Jesus is “the light of the world.”
  - 1. Jesus is the one that has provided eternal life for us.
  - 2. Jesus is the one who gives us the knowledge of salvation and how we can obtain it (the ability to see).

### III. Today, Jesus says that we are the light of the world (Mt. 5:14-16).

- A. We have been called out of this darkness and into the light.
  - 1. Eph. 5:8 - For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.
  - 2. Col. 1:13 - He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
  - 3. I Pet. 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;
- B. Because we are the light of the world, we must live our lives differently than those who are in the world (those who live in darkness).
  - 1. Rom. 13:12-13 - The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. {13} Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.
  - 2. II Cor. 6:14-7:1
  - 3. Paul says it very plainly in the book of Ephesians.
    - a. Eph. 5:11 - And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.
- C. If we are going to please God, we must be associated with the light (or the good).
  - 1. We must shun evil, even to the point of not associating with evil at all.
  - 2. We are the light of the world, and we must live like it.

### Conclusion:

While Jesus was on this earth, He was the light of the world. He gave us that light so that we could see the salvation that God offers through Him. Today, He says that we are the light of the world. Therefore, we must show others, through our teachings and our examples, that we are faithful followers of Him.

Lk. 11:33-36

John 12:35-36

35 Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.

36 "While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

Duty of Paul as a Christian

Acts 26:18

18 'to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'

Acts 26:23

23 "that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles."

(NKJ)

2 Cor 11:12-15

12 But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast.

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

John 1:1-9

Is. 49:6

6 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'

Rev 21:22-24

22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.

1Thes 5:4

4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.