

2011 LENTEN SERMON #3 I AM – LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 8:12, 12:44-50

Today we look at Jesus statement.
 I am the light of the world.
 Light is all around us we see it in the
 Halogen street Lamps
 Flash lights
 Florescent light
 Gas lights
 Glow in the darks
 Indigo watches
 Sun light, Star light, solar light,

But there is a whole other world of invisible light we can't see.
 Light is electromagnetic radiation.
 Which includes X-rays, gamma rays, Radio waves

Without light we could not see the world around us.
 We couldn't see our preschoolers bird houses made this week.
 did you ever stop to think that we don't see the image itself,
 But only the light reflected back in its various stages.
 Light waves is all our eyes can really see.

Think about it like a tsunami.
 The wave that moves is not made up of water,
 But of energy traveling through the water.
 Move your hand across a pool
 Is not the actual water that moves, but the energy wave you created.

Light waves are a little more complicated,
 The wave consists of energy in the form of electromagnetic fields.

So when Jesus said:
I am the light of the world.
 He was speaking about the energy, or
 Force of motion that brings all things to life.

Jesus probably was standing in the "Treasury"
 In the treasury there were two colossal golden lamp-stands.
 on which hung a multitude of lamps,
 lighted after the evening sacrifice
 These could be seen all over the city.
 under these lights the people danced with great rejoicing.
 And it was probably under this blaze of light
 That Jesus proclaims:

"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. LIGHT BRINGS LIFE

God turns back man's soul from the pit, that the light of life may shine on him. Job 33:30

Photosynthesis

We see this in our garden:

We plant a seed in the soil and

Leave it in a dark room

It will never grow to be what it was meant to be.

We bring it into the light and life begins.

Light is the energy that brings it to life.

That is what Jesus does to a person.

When we move to accept him into our life.

God's light shine on us and we began to come alive.

Born again. Were like a good field of corn

Seed sprouts.

But if we reject to sprout take deep root and grow.

Turn away after we have begun to believe.

Were like a corn field in drought

the same light that would grow us will wilt and kill us.

Just like the sun light will kill your house plants

If you don't water them.

Men of righteous intention seek the light ([John 3:19ff](#)).

So Jesus is the light that move us out of the darkness

Toward the living God.

Einstein noted that light waves are waves of energy.

High frequency light has high energy;

low frequency light has low energy.

Thus gamma rays have the most energy,

and radio waves have the least.

The color violet has the most energy

and the color red the least.

That is exactly why big companies do research in what color

They should paint their offices, or workplaces, preschools.

Remember Arbys said we have mood food.

Well we also have mood light.

When Jesus said we are to be the light of the world.

He meant to say you are the energy, the get-up-and-go,

that will move people out of the darkness toward God.

Donna and I had pizza and potato chips the other day.

And guess what we wanted next?

A drink of water.

Salt move us toward thirst.

If we are to be the salt of the earth by just the way we live.

The light in us as Christians

Should move people out of darkness toward the true light.

Someone said of visiting Albert Einstein
Had I stayed with him any longer I would have been compelled to become a Christian.,
And he didn't even talk to me about it.
Just being around him caused a deep thirst.

If we are the light of Christ it should attract people
To Christ.
Like bugs to a bulb.

II. LIGHT COMFORTS US

There is a sense of comfort from light.
A sense of well being.
Safety.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; Whom shall I dread? Psalm 27:1

We leave the night light on for grandchildren.
When I put my little grandson to bed,
He has a lighted turtle.
The light shines through its back shell and forms
The galaxy on the ceiling of his room.
So we lie on the bed and discuss where the big dipper is,
Where the north pole is.
We discuss where stars come from and who made them.
It's a real comfort to him and to me.
There something about light that fascinates us
Comforts us.

III. LIGHT GUIDES US

O send out Your light and Your truth, let them lead me; Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your dwelling places. Psalms 43:3

Headlights are put on a car
To guide us in the darkness, and
To stay away from one another on the highway.
Jesus 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

Just knowing Jesus should
Not only guide us through the darkness.
Through the storm,
Through the night.
Jesus light should help us through the struggles of ignorance
And tripping up other in their walk.

A blind man was walking at night carrying a flashlight. Someone said Your blind why do you carry a flashlight at night. He said I carry it so Other won't stumble because of me.

That The Bible is a guide unto our lives.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

That Jesus brings us eternal life.

For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light Psalm 36:9

When you communicate with Christ you communicate with the Author and creator of our world.

We ought to understand this better in our world of computers and telecommunications

The Light is what guides us.

Our new refurbished sanctuary organ will use fiber optics

So that the keyboard can communicate with the pipes.

Press a key blow a pipe.

Light guides us.

IV. LIGHT EXPOSES US

You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence. Psalms 90:8

How many times did we play kick the can on the farm.

Or hide and seek,

The one who had to find us came with a flashlight.

When the light shine on us we were exposed FOUND OUT.

Light exposes us reveals what we really are.

Making decisions in the dark can lead to some regrettable consequences.

Back in the days before electricity, a gruff old farmer was working his hired hand over for carrying a lighted lantern when he went to call on his best girl.

"Why," he exclaimed, "when I went a-courtin' I never carried one of them things.

I always went in the dark."

"Yes," the hired man said wryly," and look what you got!"

The more we get to know Mohammad, and his life,

The more we get to know Joseph Smith and his life,

The more we get to know about Eldon and his life,

The more apt you are to see his sinfulness, his errors, and his character flaws.

But the more we get to know about Jesus,

The more you see his purity and sinlessness.

That's why we preach,

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12;3

Don't look at me.

If you do look at me look at who I follow.

V. LIGHT PURIFIES

Light is the only thing that can touch germs and garbage and not get contaminated.

That's why we use it in surgery.

Because it is pure.

It is used in sterilizing medical equipment.

Jesus said I am the light of the world.

We can't contaminate him.

But he can purify us.

He is the white light of heaven.

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. Revelation 20:11

White is the purest and brightest light and heat.

Red is the lowest heat color,

White is the most pure.

Jesus is described

His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. Revelations 1:14

Is it any wonder that the angels appeared to men,
always dressed in dazzling white.

All those references of people in having death bed experiences to God.

Explain him as a white.

Brilliant white.

That's because God is the source of all colors,

The source of all energy. He is pure.

He is God. He is the white light of heaven.

Isaac Newton was the first person to demonstrate this.

Newton passed sunlight through a glass prism to separate the colors into a rainbow spectrum.

He then passed rainbow spectrum through a second glass prism and produced white light.

Jesus is the white light of heaven.

The combination of every color in the visible spectrum produces

The combination of every point of energy in the universe

That is he is the all in all

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Hebrews 1:3

Jesus is the light of purification for sins.

Last

VI. LIGHT HEALS US

we could go on and on about light and Jesus

Jesus as the light of the world Heals us.

Light therapy is also called phototherapy.

We use light to treat depression

We use light to treat Jaundice in a baby.

We use light on psoriasis, wrinkles, acne, bed sores.

With light radiations we kill cancer cells

Many of you have had laser surgery on your eyes.

Some of you have had the Gamma knife.

Gamma-rays are the most energetic form of light and

release more energy in 10 seconds
 than the Sun will emit in its entire 10 billion-year lifetime!
 all of the bursts we have observed
 have come from outside the Milky Way Galaxy.

God is light,

The word of God is like a gamma knife,

12 For the word of God is living and active

Sharper than any doubled edge sword...gamma knife.

Sharper than any double-edged sword,

it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow;

It cuts deeper than the skin or even the internal organs of your body.

it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

The gamma light of Jesus cuts into the emotions,

It cuts into the spiritual mindset of the world,

It can heal the impure,

Thaw the frozen,

Ax an attitude

Implode a grudge.

Melt the hardest heart.

Heal the blind.

Because

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Hebrew 4:13

Jesus as the light of the world

Should comfort us,

But it should also terrify us into obedience

Because he knows all about us,

All the secrets and evil of our hearts

Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Hebrews 4:12-13

The 1964 Philadelphia Phillies suffered the greatest collapse in sports history.

When the division championship slipped away from them in a ten game losing streak.

But the most remarkable moment of the entire season occurred after a game

when Clay Dalrymple, a Phillie pitcher,

was asked to assist a blind girl who had requested a chance to walk out on the field.

Dalrymple took the little blind girl by the hand to home plate

where she reached down and felt the plate.

Then they walked to first base, second base, and third base before ending up at home plate.

While Dalrymple was showing the little blind girl around the bases,

he never noticed that the fans remaining in the stadium

had stopped to watch him and his little blind companion.

He just assumed that the silence meant the fans had gone home.

But when the two of them finally reached home plate, the ballpark erupted.

With thousands of fans giving them a standing ovation.

He later told Sports Illustrated that "It was the biggest ovation I ever got."

Friends the heavens erupt when a blind soul come to Christ

When a blind sinner is led home to Jesus.

Jesus 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

Will you come to Jesus

And will you let him bring you all the way home.