Walking in the Light

Introduction

1 John 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. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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.

- 1. Do you remember seeing those maps at road side stops or in other locations you are visiting that shows a "You are here" star or icon?
- 2. Wouldn't it be great if there was a spiritual map that had a star which allowed us to see "You are here."
 - A. Fortunately for us there is it is called the Bible!

Are You in the Light?

- 1. We must first understand that the Light is God.
 - A. John says that He is light. Notice what some others said:

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

1 Peter 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;

1 Timothy 6:16

- B. The light of God is absolutely pure there are no spots, eclipses, twilight, or darkness.
 - 1) God's nature (Love):

1 John 4:8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

2) God's intellectual nature:

Psalms 44:22 Yet for Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

1 John 3:20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

Psalms 139:1-6

Luke 12:6-7 "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

- 2. If we walk in the light of God, we have fellowship with one another. (1 John 1:7)
 - A. Walking implies progress, purpose, small steps designed to get us to our destination.
 - B. Walk "in the light" is best express by "holiness."
 - C. All those who walk in the light are one (principles, aims, character, service and destiny).

- 3. The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.
 - A. There is no sin we can commit that His blood cannot cleanse.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool."

Hebrews 9:13-14 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

- 4. Ask yourself at this very moment, "where am I?" Answer the question before us: "Am I in the light as He is in the light?"
 - A. An unknown source once said: Some people change their ways when they see the light, others only when they feel the heat.

Are We Trying to Straddle between Light and Darkness?

1. There is no shadowy in-between state. The Bible only speaks of light and dark (1 John 1).

Luke 11:23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

2. Some people choose to live as close to the darkness as possible while still thinking they are still right with God.

Romans 13:13-14 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Ephesians 5:8-12

- A. We need to constantly be asking ourselves, where are we?
 - 1) Do we "flirt" with the world? Is the darkness to be feared or is it desired?
- 3. Some have difficulty knowing where the light ends and the darkness begins.
 - A. Some have simply lost the sense of right and wrong. How did this happen?

Titus 1:15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

B. Where are we? Can we easily determine what God desires of us? Could it be that our conscience has been damaged?

Are We Lost in the Darkness?

- 1. Being lost is a bad and scary thing.
 - A. Example: Moving to a new city; a child away from home; a child getting separated from their parents.
 - B. The same sense of lost occurs when we are away from God.
- 2. We are not just lost, we are lost in darkness. Blindness being the effective result.
 - A. Stumbling, tripping, bumping into things along a pathway. Like being in a deep cave and all the light is gone!
 - 1) Those who have left the Lord or who have no knowledge of God are in darkness.
- 3. Some who profess to be in the light are in fact actually walking in the darkness.

1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

- A. We lie to God and ourselves: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8).
 - 1) There is not such thing as "once saved, always saved."
- B. Being in the light helps us to see the way clearly as we make good decisions based upon the light that illuminates us.

Unknown Source:

Making decisions in the dark can lead to some regrettable consequences. Back in the days before electricity, a tightfisted old farmer was taking his hired man to task 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, "and look what you got!"

- 4. If we hate our brother we are in darkness! 1 John 2:9-11
 - A. We cannot be pleasing to God while holding such poor attitudes toward our own brethren.
- 5. If one is lost in the darkness we need someone to show us the way back to the light.
 - A. We would find ourselves calling to anyone who came close!
 - B. We would reach out to clasp an out-stretched hand.

 Matthew 18:12-14

Conclusion

- 1. Let us pause and ask an important question. Remember, God is listening and He knows our heart.
 - A. Where are we? In the light as He is in the light? Some think the darkness is all there is they know nothing else.
- 2. Could it be that you are stumbling in the dark after having walked in the light of Jesus?
 - A. Only those who find themselves in the light and walking in the light, will enjoy an eternity with the light of God.

Invitation

Place	Date
	
	

Walking in the Light.wpd Richard Thetford, May 2021 (Based on an outline by Don Willis)