

Christmas Light



Reflection

Formless, empty and engulfed in darkness, that was the state of our world until God spoke. *“Let there be light”*, the first word of God recorded in the Bible, achieved God’s purpose of bringing light and life to his creation.

From the very beginning God declared that light was good.

The New Testament expands our understanding of light. **1 John 1** reveals that God is not only the author of light, he IS light. In his act of creation, God has drawn from his own nature. *“God is light, and in him is no darkness at all”* (**1 John 1:5**).

Darkness, the original state of the universe before God’s intervention, remains the universal symbol and condition of sin and death; light is the symbol and expression of holiness and the presence of God.

Light brings life and life in turn produces light. This is what John tells us in the first chapter of his gospel, as he introduces us to Jesus, the Word of God.

“In him was life, and that life was the light of all humanity”. (**John 1:4**)

When Jesus spoke about light, he didn’t say he had brought light, he said that he IS light (**John 8:12, 9:5**). By coming to earth, Jesus revealed God in a way he had never been seen before. He also revealed the way God’s plan for his people had been distorted and twisted, so that the leaders of the Jews were leading the people away from God. These leaders were spiritually blind, and because of that, they didn’t recognise who Jesus was.

People today are spiritually blind as well, when they reject Jesus as God and choose to live life the way they want, rather than the way God

directs. God our creator sees the *big picture* of life on earth; we see just a small part of it, as though we were walking through the darkness with a candle to light our path. Jesus has replaced the candle with a searchlight, but many people don’t want to come into his light because they don’t want their actions to be seen.

Spiritual blindness can be cured by the presence of the Holy Spirit, indwelling directing and guiding, and we receive the Holy Spirit when we believe that Jesus is God and accept him as our Saviour and the Lord of our lives. (**John 1: 12**)

All those who do catch and reflect the light of God and of Christ are called *lights*. Christians have been called out of the darkness we lived in before we knew Jesus, and are now called *“children of light”* (**John 12:36, Ephesians 5:8**). But as followers of Jesus we are to live our lives in line with our calling which is to find out what pleases the Lord (**Ephesians 5:10**).

God has a purpose in calling us to follow Jesus. Our purpose is to bring glory to God in heaven, and we are to do this by reflecting God’s light in our own lives, so others will see what we do and be directed to the one who has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

