

“Your Word is a Lamp”

- A. “This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you” (1 John 1:5-10).
- B. This “good news” was written so that it might be dispersed far and wide (1 John 1:1-4).
- C. The eyewitness-authors believed that we could share in their joy through the power of their words.

I. Darkness Fills the Vacuum Left by the Absence of God’s Word

- A. The tragic reality: we either are or have been in _____.
 - 1. When we suppress the truth of God’s existence, we turn our backs on light (Rom 1:18-32).
 - 2. The resulting “futility” of mind can best be described in terms of darkness (Eph 4:17-19).
 - 3. Walking in darkness is an ancient epidemic that was lamented by Job (24:13-17).
 - 4. Humanity had not evolved beyond this epidemic in the days of Jesus (John 3:18-20).
 - 5. The gospel is tragically veiled to those who are perishing (2 Cor 4:3-6).
- B. Ours is a world that has been and presently is enveloped in darkness.

II. The Good News: The True Light Has Come Into the World

- A. We have not been abandoned to the darkness of ignorance and rebellion (John 1:1-5, 9-14).
- B. The “eyes of our hearts” can be “_____” (Eph 1:18; Heb 6:4; 10:32).
- C. The word is our God-given lamp (Psa 119:105,130; 19:7-11; Prov 6:20-23; Isa 2:5; 42:5,16)
 - 1. In the _____ (Psa 59:16-17; 88:13; 90:14; 92:1-2; 143:8)
 - 2. In the daytime (Rom 13:13-14)
 - 3. In the _____ (Psa 65:5-8; 141:1-2)
 - 4. In the watches of the night (Psa 63:1-8; 119:147-148)
 - 5. Like the rising of the sun, illuminating our _____ (Eccl 12:13-14)
 - 6. Like a flash of revelation concerning our story and God’s intervention (Romans)
 - 7. Like a lamp, spotlighting the _____ of our days on this earth (Jam 4:14; Psa 90:12)
 - 8. Like a darkness-defeating torch in times of temptation (1 Cor 10:13; Eph 6:17)
 - 9. Like a fire, providing a comforting glow in times of _____ (Psa 73:23-26)
 - 10. Like a lighthouse in times of stormy uncertainty (Phil 4:4-7)
 - 11. Like a guiding light for the church, home life, our work ethic, discipline, and maturity
- D. God’s word is the means he uses to reveal himself as the all-satisfying _____ (Psa 23).
- E. “Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD” (Isa 2:5).