

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 8:12

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-386 OCTOBER 13, 2000

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Jesus is The Light of Life” - Part 1

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

The Deity of Jesus, Light, Salvation, Life, Judgment

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 8:12-20

Dramatic Moments in Life

**WE'VE ALL HAD THEM! AND THEY HAVE HAD THE POWER TO GRIP OUR
MEMORY FOR LIFE...**

Where were you when President Kennedy was Assassinated?

Where were you when, on July 20, 1969, - Neil Armstrong took his 'First Step'

I Remember my school calling a prayer meeting for the Apollo 13 Crisis

Where were you on January 28th 1986 when The Challenger flew into eternity

I remember in August, on Friday the 13th, 1982 @ 4:12 pm - Rebekah was born

Dramatic Moments in Life

What about These Past 15 Days in Israel
And the unfolding, clandestine events of the Middle East!
As the specter of War continues to Approach, and where were you when you heard
that the USS COLE had been attacked?

Dramatic Moments

It's Gripp'd Our Attention, The Attention of the Entire World

The Reading of the Text John 8:12-20

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, **"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life."**

13 The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true." **14** Jesus answered and said to them, **"Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. 15 You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. 16 And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. 17 It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true.**

18 I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me." 19 Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, **"You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also." 20** These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

The Festival of Tabernacles had concluded its great (7) day long celebrations with the high priest standing before the people, they would have shouted out the hallel praises of God - -

Leviticus 23:34-36

Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD... 36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD....

As the morning of the eighth day (8th) dawned, tens of thousands of worshippers are now gathered for reflective meditation and **a hushed reverence for what God had done and then “a sacrifice made by fire” was to be offered to God...**

Leviticus 23:36

...On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall not work on that day.

Well, There was another awesome
impression

that was about to be embossed upon the hearts and minds of the people

Jesus was about to make

an announcement that would change the course
of human history - for all eternity.

It Was at This Perfect Moment,
That was Jesus to Fulfill His Declaration of Enlightenment!

Jesus is The Light of Life

1.) *What Jesus says about Himself*

vv. 12a

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

a.) *Jesus is the God of all protection*

v.12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying,
"I am the light of the world."

**There is no greater, supreme, reality that Jesus could
have announced**

**"I am... (ego emi)
...the light of the world!"**

Daniel 2:22

And light dwells with Him.

1 John 1:5

God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.



I am the light of the world

the God of all protection

The Background to This Moment Is All Important

Edersheim Notes:

“On this, the dawning of the eighth day, in the court of the woman, known also as the treasury, great menorah’s had been erected prior to tabernacles. Each one having four great basins of oil, each holding 65 gallons of oil, each having there own wick. For the entire week these great candelabras lit up the temple and much of Jerusalem. Historians tell us that those candelabras stood nearly 65 feet high, but the flame from those candelabra’s rose another thirty feet high into the night sky, well above the walls. Those vertical flames could be seen up to fifty miles away. While the gold crown trim that capped the temple itself, glittered, creating what looked like horizontal flames - aglow!”

From The Mishnah

“Men of piety and of good works would dance before the menorah’s with torches in hand. Singing and dancing before the lord, and before an innumerable host. The Levites hard to number, with harps, cymbals, trumpets, and all instruments of music!”

It’s no wonder why the Psalmist shouts...

Psalm 100:4

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Psalm 84:10

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Those Great Candelabras

Symbolized the **Shekinah** Glory of God

Remembering and Commemorating the
Cloudy Pillar of Fire in the Wilderness

Exodus 13:17-22

18 So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt. 19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you." 20 So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. 21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. 22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

But it's now The Morning of the Eighth-Day,
The Day after the Candelabras had been **extinguished, charred, cold**
and empty now... *The crowds still as large, but now in a reverential silence...*

Leviticus 23:36

...On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation... it is a sacred assembly!!!

Hold That scene

In Your Mind's Eye

Charred, Cold and Empty...

No longer burning bright, no longer Hot, no longer Full

I'm the One

Who plagued pharaoh with the plagues

As you exited Egypt

I was that light that burned in the night for you

Throughout The Wilderness Wanderings

I held back the enemy from your life,

I am the One

who dried up the Red Sea

I am the One

Who held back the Jordan river at Jericho

That's why the book of revelation says

Revelation 22:16

I, Jesus... I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Revelation 22:12-13

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

Revelation 21:6

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

Revelation 1:7-8

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation 1:16-18

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. 18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. And all of God's people said - Amen.

Exodus 3:14

And God said to Moses, "**I AM WHO I AM.**" And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, '**I AM** has sent me to you.' "

"I AM"

The Forever Supplier, Protector,

When I was Little,
I used to be so scared of the dark!
I used to sneak from my dad's work bench with a flash light

Just Knowing that I had my own personal light saber helped!!!

Genesis 15:1

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your **shield (protector)**, your exceedingly great reward."

Psalm 3:3

But You, O LORD, are a **shield (protector)** for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head.

Psalm 115:9-11

9 O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is your help
your **shield (protector)**.

10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; He is your help and
your **shield (protector)**.

11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is your help and
your **shield (protector)**.

He Has Committed Himself to You
To be your help and your shield

Hebrews 13:5-6

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

What Jesus says about Himself

b.) Jesus is the God of all direction v.12b

He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness

the darkness

spiritual blindness. being blind to the light

**He who follows Me
shall not walk in darkness**

follows grk NT:190 akoloutheo (ak-ol-oo-theh'-o); from to be on the road together, to be in the way with another. to be in company with us!!!

to be in company with us!!!

Les Miserable's

But How Does God Direct Me?

Deuteronomy 2:7

For the LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your trudging through this great wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you; you have lacked nothing." '

Deuteronomy 8:2

And you shall remember that the LORD your God who led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart,

But They Did Not Follow His Direction

The children of Israel walked in a circle for some forty years while the journey from Egypt to Jericho was an eleven-day hike

??How often in our lives do we wander??

c.) *Jesus is the God of all light*

v.12c

**He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness,
but have the light of life."**

The Bible Teaches That,
The Human Nature Dwells in a Moral and Spiritual Darkness Because it is Dark

John 3:19

But men love darkness rather than light,
because their deeds were evil

But Jesus Came!!!

John 1:4,9

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.... 9 That was the true Light which
gives light to every man coming into the world.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His **glory, the glory**
as of the only honored one of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 2:8-10

For in Him dwells all the **fullness** of the Godhead bodily;
repletion, totality, completion, profuseness, the sum total

HAVING HIS LIGHT IN US

Philippians 2:15

in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation,
among whom you **shine as lights in the world,**