

The Sunday School Lesson

A Ministry of the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association

by Rev. Mike Cummings, pastor, Mt. Airy Baptist Church

The Light of the World

John 1:4-10, 12:44-50

We are continuing our study of titles of Jesus. This lesson examines the title "light" and points to its significance as a redemption title for Jesus.

When you begin to look at Jn. 1, you are tempted to recall the Gen 1 story of creation. That may have been a deliberate action on John's part as he portrays the creator as the re-creator, the redeemer.

v.4--As in creation, physical life was a creative work. In the redemption story, spiritual life is the re-creative work of God the Word. "Life" here means life-giving power.

"Light" was the first pronouncement in creation, Gen. 1:3. It is also primarily significant in redemption. Spiritually, light is explained by such words as truth and freedom, while it also has life-giving power. Light is indispensable to life and life to light. In the Son, there is life which is light-naturally and spiritually.

v.5--"Darkness" implies falsehood and bondage, while ultimately meaning death. All that is in the light is absent in darkness. Light is superior to darkness. Light dissolves darkness because darkness has no effective resistance to light. Darkness brings misery to everything except light.

vs.6-8--The reference is to John the Baptist. His origin is both natural and supernatural, see Lk. 1:5-15 and Mal. 3:1. His name means "grace of Jehovah." His divine appointment was to "bear witness" and point out the light to men, see Jn. 1:15-34. He was not the light but he could point it out. That is a wonderful assignment in itself. Why do we need to point out light? Where men are blind, they never know when the light is turned on unless someone tells them.

vs.9-10--"True Light" in the first instance means not only genuine light but divine light also. This is in contrast to human or earthly light. Jesus is genuinely divine light which no one else can be. He contains the truth, is the truth, and reveals the truth for us, in us and about us. He fills us with light. By first shining on us, we can learn the truth that the darkness has kept hidden from us. Namely, the world is in darkness because it does not recognize Jesus as God's divine work in its midst.

Secondly, we all become sinners because we reject Jesus as God's way back to the Father. Thirdly, the truth is that Jesus redeems us from darkness and does not condemn us in darkness. That comes to pass when He shines on us. To receive Jesus is to be enlightened. Only then will you know the truth, have the truth and be able to share the truth. The world belonged to Jesus by right of creation--He made it, Jn. 1:3. The world was in darkness now because it had refused Him. There may have been a thousand reasons for refusing Him, but the world was in darkness because it had refused Jesus. All that He had created, the Son can now recreate and redeem because He is the true light shining on all He has made. There is no excuse for anyone to remain in darkness. The true light overcomes it.

Jn. 12:44-46 To see Jesus and believe Him are important because Jesus is God's work, 2 Cor. 5:19. He stresses that the father is one with Him.

vs.47-48--We must choose to receive or reject the claims of Jesus. Jesus is not a condemner, but the strength of His claim (His words) is enough to condemn if we refuse it. It is this claim (words) that we must reject or receive.

vs.49-50--That word or claim is doubly potent for it is endorsed by the Father. There is a union of person and power of the Father and the Son which can bring life everlasting or condemnation. Our faith makes the difference.

Jesus is light and life. As the creator and the redeemer, He brings to us the necessary ingredient for receiving the greatest gift. There is no life apart from light. Again, a redemptive title for Jesus is "Light of the World."

Ever Green Church News

by Mrs. Leola Brooks

January 10th was a great day for the ones who attended church.

Rev. Edmond Locklear did a good job discussing Acts 17. He was chosen for assistant teacher for the adult class. Subject for the lesson was "Declaring the True God." The class enjoyed how Bro. Locklear discussed this chapter.

Mrs. Mary Locklear's class had the program and I might add, she did a swell job. The program was based on Heaven. Words can't explain the beauty of Heaven. We've read about it, but the eye has never seen nor have ears heard the glory awaiting us in that beautiful city. The only way we'll really know just how it is there, is to go there. Praise God these 23 years I've been working on that trip, it has been a pleasure. There's no strain to live right. It only

takes desire and determination. Someday I'll see for myself all these beauties Heaven holds for me. Are you on your way to that city? If not, get ready today, tomorrow may be just too late.

Rev. Edmond Locklear Jr. preached today from Romans 13:11-14. He brought in many good points concerning confession based on Christ the true light. Hope, Faith and Love. The only way to have Christ is to love our fellow man.

Pray for all our sick loved ones. Judy Welking is home from the hospital but, still isn't doing too good. She thanks you for your prayers and visits. Also thanks Evergreen for a beautiful flower.

Please pray for the family of Mrs. Mary Ruth Locklear. They are in trouble because of her death. Please remember her son, he's still in the hospital.

The Lord is calling. One by one. So its important to be ready. The hour we think not he's coming.

Thought For Today

Let's ask our Father, Lord, what will you have me do?

When you become a soldier of the cross, there is no question of cost or consequences, but only the determination to submerge your will in the will of Christ...To honor Him with your life, your talent, your possessions...He asks for...1/7 of your time...1/10 of your money...All of your heart...Tithing is a shield...It protects you from selfishness...Tithing guards your spirit of love...Tithing encourages you to step out for God...Tithing will help you gain faith...It will bring peace to your mind...Courage to reach out.

Please pray for us at Evergreen.

OBITUARY

ANTHONY GUY BREWINGTON

Funeral services for Anthony Guy Brewington were held at Harpers Ferry Baptist Church on January 8, 1982 at 3:30 p.m. with the Rev. Harvey Brewington and the Rev. Mike Cummings officiating.

He is survived by his wife, Jacque Ann Brewington. He is the son of the late William Roy Brewington and Mrs. Arminda Brewington Locklear. He is the step son of Rev. Manford Locklear. He is also survived by one sister, Debra Ann Collins of St. Petersburg, Fla; four brothers, Michael Flynn, Simuel David, William Ray, Jr. and Arnold Lee Brewington, all of Pembroke; paternal grand parents, John David and Carromae Brewington; maternal grandparents, the late Simuel David and Daisy Brooks.

Golden Gleams

Life is like a school of gladiators, where men live and fight one another. -Seneca.

Youth is a blunder; manhood a struggle; old age a regret. -Benjamin Disraeli.

Man's real life is happy, chiefly because he is ever expecting that it soon will be so. -E.A. Poe.

WHO KNOWS?

1. Why are April 13 and April 14 significant dates?
2. What disaster occurred on April 10, 1963?
3. What is believed to be the origin of the word April?
4. What is the result when hydrogen is burned?
5. On what day in April did Paul Revere make his famous ride?
6. Has a date been affixed for the crucifixion of Jesus?
7. When is Good Friday this year?
8. How is the date for Easter fixed each year?
9. When is Easter this year?
10. When did the liner Titanic strike an iceberg and sink?

Answers To Who Knows

1. Thomas Jefferson was born on the 13th in 1743 and President Lincoln was assassinated on the 14th in 1865.
2. All the crew (129) on the atomic submarine Thresher were lost.
3. Taken from the Latin verb "asperie" meaning to "open."
4. Water forms.
5. April 18, 1775.
6. Yes, April 7, 30 A.D.
7. April 17.
8. It's always celebrated the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Vernal Equinox.
9. April 19.
10. April 14, 1912.

Best Of Press

There Are Some
An old-fashioned wife is one who tries to make one husband last a lifetime.

-The Grit.

Merely A Suggestion
Sign in a reducing salon's window: "A word to the wide is sufficient."
-Citizen, Asheville, N.C.

The best thing about spring is that it brings an end to winter.

Have you ever met anyone who had nothing to complain about?

To read without thinking is not to become informed.

When one learns to play golf he learns more than the sport itself.

Smart parents let their children learn something by experience.

Some people fear life and death and others fear neither. Why?

The keenest punishment is to ignore a man who tries to insult you.

CENSUS: the 1980 census figures released by the Bureau of Census showed a 71 percent increase in the Indian population in the past decade from 827,268 to 1,418, 195. Most of the increase, however, was attributed by the Bureau to "improved census taking and the greater likelihood in 1980 that people would identify themselves in this category." California, 201,311 passed Oklahoma, 169,464 as the state with the largest Indian population. Rounding out the top five are Arizona 152,867, New Mexico 104,777 and North Carolina, 64,635.

START 1982 OUT IN A NEW CAR!!!

Piggly Wiggly Stores are Giving Away 10 Chevettes

CAR ON DISPLAY FURNISHED BY McLaurin-McArthur Co. LAURINBURG, N.C.

STANDARD TRANSMISSION FOUR DOOR AIR CONDITIONING AM/FM RADIO

DRAWING SAT. NITE, APRIL 17, 1982

PIGGLY WIGGLY BLEACH 59c	JENO'S PIZZA 88c	STARKIST LIGHT MEAT TUNA 88c	GOLDEN BEST Towels 2/100
DAWN DETERGENT 1.19	PIGGLY WIGGLY Fruit Cocktail 59c	KRAFT AMERICAN CHEESE SINGLES 1.29	
PIGGLY WIGGLY Drinks 88c	WESSON OIL 1.99	VAN CAMP Pork & Beans 3/1.19	PIGGLY WIGGLY BUTTERMILK Biscuits 78c

FRESH HENS 49c LB.

BOX FRYERS \$19.95 40-LB.

U.S.D.A. Choice Beef! FULL CUT BONE IN ROUND STEAK 1.69 LB.

FRESH Ground Beef 1.09 LB. OR MORE

ROUND STEAK 1.89	ROUND STEAK 2.09	ROUND ROAST 2.69	CUBE STEAK 2.89
FAT BACK 49c	BULK SALE FRESH LINK SAUSAGE 1.49	SPARERIBS 1.29	PORK LOIN 1.39
BREAD 2/99c	PIXIE OR SHERBET 1.39	Baby Lima Beans 99c	
LOTION 1.38	CONDITIONER 1.68	SALTINES 75c	
LISTERINE 2.28	ASPIRIN 1.78	OREO COOKIES 1.85	
SHAMPOO 1.68	ICE Cream Sandwiches 99c	PEANUT BRITTLE COOKIES 1.29	
Parkay Spread 1.39	POLAR BARS 1.79	Steak-umm 2.79	

PIGGLY WIGGLY WORLD OF PRODUCE the Freshest Buys in Town!

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