

Sermon on the Mount ~ More Perfectly

Part VIII Light of the world

*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick;
and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.*

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

Matthew 5:14-16

Light of the world? Us?

Let's first examine these teachings in the Gospels to the Jews and as we have been doing, finding out what Paul says about the light of the world.

But first, does it even matter?

- **John 3:19** - *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*
- **John 12:37** - *But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him:*
- **John 1:11,12** - *He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*
 - compare that to the KJB - Christians reject his words - the KJB - **I Corinthians 13:10**
 - **II Timothy 3:13** - *But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.*
 - scholarship?
 - ministers of righteousness?
 - philosophy?
 - tradition?
 - history?
 - feelings?
 - their own understanding?
 - another Jesus?

Of course, Jesus Himself 'was' the light!

- God's word has always been the light!
 - **Psalms 119:105** - *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*
 - **Psalms 119:130** - *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.*

- Then, when God manifest himself...
 - **I Timothy 3:16** - *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*
 - Jesus became the light!
 - **John 1:4** - *In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*
 - So, why can't his risen life simply be a continuation of that light?
 - **John 1:7-9** - *The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.*
 - John the Baptist was the prophet then - why follow him today?
 - **Luke 2:32** - *A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.*
 - light / glory
 - **John 8:12** - *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*
 - follow his teachings - give it all up - believe he is the Messiah
 - **John 12:46** - *I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*
 - **John 12:36** - *While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.*
 - But today, Jesus is no longer in the world...
 - **John 9:5** - *As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.*
 - Now who/what is the light today?
 - Still Jesus? Howso?
 - If not Jesus, who else? What else?
 - Angel of light
 - **II Corinthians 11:14** - *And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.*
 - **Galatians 1:8** - *But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.*
 - another Jesus? another Spirit? another gospel?
 - any bible?
 - KJB only?
 - People's works?
 - the preacher / pastor, etc.
 - **II Corinthians 11:15** - *Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*
 - Or the real light - the living God!
 - Just read on ...
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14: Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

- Ye - plural - Jews - children of light - **Luke 16:8** - *And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.*
- Kingdom of heaven (see **verse Matthew 5:19**)

Get to the Question right away - Are 'we' the light of the world today? Well yes, but...

- Paul does say:
 - **I Thessalonians 5:5** - *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*
- But he also says:
 - 'AS' children of light - "*light in the Lord*"
 - **Ephesians 5:8** - *For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:*
 - **Philippians 2:15** - *That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;*
 - Put on the armour of light!
 - **Romans 13:12** - *... let us cast of the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.*
 - **Galatians 3:27** - *For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*
 - **Ephesians 4:24** - *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*
 - **Colossians 3:10** - *And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:*
 - glorious gospel of Christ - blinded to the lost!
 - **II Corinthians 4:4** - *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*
 - glorious gospel of Christ is the light today!
 - Bunny trail:
 - Christ is the image of the living God!
 - our pics today of "Jesus" are pics of the living God? No way!
 - **Deuteronomy 5:7-10** - *Thou shalt have none other gods before me. Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.*

- sure, nailed to the cross, but there must have been a reason to prohibit 'images,' eh!
 - **Colossians 2:14** - *Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;*
 - **Revelation 13:15** - *And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.*
- Here is one for ya...
 - **Paul - a light of the Gentiles**
 - **Acts 13:47** - *For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.*
 - **Acts 26:18** - *To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.*

15: Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

- To them then, it was THEM and their works, etc.
 - **Matthew 5:16**- *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
- To us today, it is the gospel of Christ - the Risen Saviour - through the preaching and teaching of Paul!!
 - Paul preaches the gospel of Christ
 - **Romans 15:29** - *And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.*
 - **Romans 16:25,26** - *Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:*
 - **I Corinthians 1:17** - *For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*
 - **I Thessalonians 3:2** - *And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:*

- **II Timothy 1:8** - *Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;*
- Ashamed of the gospel of Christ?
 - **Romans 1:16** - *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*
- Hinder the gospel of Christ?
 - **I Corinthians 9:12,18** - *If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ.*
- Pervert the gospel of Christ?
 - **Galatians 1:7** - *Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.*
- Obey it not?
 - **II Thessalonians 1:8** - *In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

16: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

- What should men of darkness see shining in us today?
 - Gospel teachings of their own righteousness?
 - **Romans 10:3** - *For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.*
 - or
 - Paul's teachings of 'being' made God's righteousness, strength, joy, peace, grace, mercy, etc.
 - **Philippians 4:9** - *Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.*
 - When they saw Paul...
 - **Galatians 2:9** - *And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.*
 - When they saw that Paul had entered in and saw how they turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God!
 - **I Thessalonians 1:9** - *For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;*
 - A zealousness from a peculiar person!
 - **Titus 2:14** - *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

- ...as it becometh the gospel of Christ!
 - **Philippians 1:27 - 27** -Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

Pastor - Mike Paulson

The entire King James Bible is written FOR us, but it is not all written TO us!

We learn from the "For" and we try to apply the "TO!"