



Sunday, August 8, 2020  
Part 2: Walk in the Light  
Key Text: 1 John 1:5-10

The Word luminous means; full, shedding light, bright or shining, especially in the dark. John highlights the importance of shedding the light of Jesus in a dark world.

**Key Thought:** John shares we live in a dark world where sin is rampant. Sin creates shame and hopelessness. Our nature is to hide. However, we have been provided a light in the person of Jesus.

### Setting the Scene:

- John older in life, and a father figure (85, 90 AD)
- Written to the Church in Ephesus
- 1 John illuminates and brings more clarity to the love of Christ and how Christ Followers should respond to others.
- We are called to know God, not just know about Him.

<sup>3</sup> We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy. 1 John 1:3-4

- Fellowship with God + Fellowship with Believers= Pure Joy

### 1. Foundational Truth: God is Light. (1 John 1:5-8)

Light reveals; the light shines. God is so completely "light" that *in Him is no darkness at all*. "Darkness" represents what is sinful and evil. The Greek could be translated literally as "**darkness is not in him ever.**"<sup>1</sup>

Darkness: is the Absence of light. Darkness does not recognize the light.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*  
- Martin Luther King Jr

- God's Light Reveals Himself.
- God's Light Reveals the Condition of Our Heart.
- God's light Reveals Our Path.
- God's Light Reveals Truth.

### ➤ The truth is many would rather live in darkness and shame than living in truth.

<sup>19</sup> And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but **people loved the darkness more than the light**, for their actions were evil. <sup>20</sup> All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for **fear** their sins will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants. John 3:19-21

According to clinical psychologist John Mayer, Ph. D., author of *Family Fit: Find Your Balance in Life*, fear of the dark is "very common" among adults. "It is estimated that 11 percent of the U.S. population is afraid of the dark," he says, noting that it's even more common than a fear of heights."<sup>2</sup>

### ➤ We can't claim that we have not sinned because we would not be living in truth.

<sup>1</sup> Barton, B. B., & Osborne, G. R. (1998). *1, 2 & 3 John* (p. 19). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.glamour.com/story/its-not-just-you-lots-of-adults-are-afraid-of-the-dark>

If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again **entangled** in it and **overcome**, they are **worse off** at the **end** than they were at the **beginning**. 2 Peter 2:20

## 2. The Application: Walk in the light (1 John 1:9-10)

- **Unless we are broken over sin, we won't see our need for a savior.**

...all our righteous acts are like **filthy rags**...and like the wind, our sins sweep us away. Isaiah 64:6

But each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when it is full-grown, gives birth to **death**. James 1:14-15

- **Two Choices in Dealing With Your Sin**

➤ Conceal your Sin

<sup>13</sup>People who **conceal** their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy. Proverbs 28:13

➤ Confess Your Sin

If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just and will **forgive** us our sins and purify us from **all unrighteousness**. 1 John 1:9

**Confess:** "To say the same word."

<sup>5</sup>Finally, I **confessed** all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD." And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. Psalm 32:5

<sup>16</sup>Therefore **confess your sins to each other** and **pray for each other** so that you may be healed. The **prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective**. James 5:15, NIV

**Have mercy on me**, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin...<sup>10</sup>Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. <sup>11</sup>Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12

**One Last Thought:** The most miserable people in the world are not unbelievers, but Christians who live in sin. Walk in the Light.