**LIGHT**

I. **Review**

A. Seek Him while He may be found (Is. 55:6)

B. Worship Him for who He is…not just your petitions

C. When we see Him, we will be like Him (1 Jn 3:2-3)

 1. As mercy, we become merciful

 As grace, we become gracious

 As healer, we are healed

 As deliverer, we are delivered

 As light, we become light.

II. **God is Light**

Scripture:

*“The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.”*  Numbers 6:24-26

*There be many that say, Who will show us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.* Psalm 4:6

*The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the*

*LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?* Ps 27:1

*Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance*. Ps 89:15

*In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.* Proverbs 16:15

Countenance is the outward appearance of what’s really going on on the inside. Mad, sad, sick, happy, scared…God is light.

*He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him.* Daniel 2:22

*\*\*\*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.* 1 John 1:5

The trinity is LIGHT.

*There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever*. Rev 22:5

The Father’s Countenance in the Birth Announcement

*Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.**And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.**Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.**For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”* Luke 2

In Heaven there is no darkness. Jesus was LIGHT and was about to leave the place of constant light to enter a dark world.

III. **Jesus is the Light of the World**

 Scriptures:

*Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you*. Isaiah 60:1-2

*The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.* Matt 4:16

*\*\*\*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.****In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*** *There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.* ***That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.****But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:**who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.* John 1:4-13

*Jesus was with the Father and Holy Spirit at the beginning of creation.*

*JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS THAT FORERUNNER, BEARING WITNESS OF THAT LIGHT. WE ARE FORERUNNERS FOR THE BRIDEGROOM, BEARING WITNESS OF THAT LIGHT.*

*And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.**But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”* John 3:19-21

*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.”*  John 8:12

*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”* John 9:5

*Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me.**And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me.**I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.* John 12:35-36

*(John 15…*Abide in Me) WE WILL ABIDE IN ONE OR THE OTHER.

*He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.* Rev 1:16

*IV.* **We Are Called to be Light**

 Scriptures:

Remember we just read that Jesus said as long as He was in the world, He was the light of the world?

He was preparing the disciples for when He would leave.

*\*\*\*You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. “Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.* Matt 5:14-16

*\*\*\*This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*. 1 John 1:4-9

If we are to be the light to a dark world, the LIGHT has to first expose the darkness in us.

*For so the Lord has commanded us: ‘I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.* Acts 13:47-Paul speaking

*I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you,**to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me. ’Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.**For these reasons the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.**Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come—**that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”* Acts 26:18-23 (Conversation from Paul to King Agrippa)

*\*\*\*And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.* *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.* Romans 13:12

\*\*\*For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them.*For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,

Arise from the dead,

And Christ will give you light.” Ephesians 5:8-14

WAKE UP!!! Shake off apathy, complacency, dullness.

*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.* 1 Peter 2:9

*Do all things without complaining and disputing,**that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.* Philippians 2:15-16

Moses – Exodus-his countenance was glowing after being with God.

*But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,* *whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake.* *For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.* 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

V. **How Does This Happen? Not in our own strength!!!** Vs 6 above

I kept hearing the words ‘reflective light’. He drew me to the beginning..

A. Scriptures

*Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.**God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.* Genesis 1:2-5

Side note: Interesting He never called the darkness good.

*Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.* Genesis 1:14-19

1. 2 separate events, 2 separate days
2. It was His GLORY that was released on the 1st day
3. Both lights were great…one was just lesser
4. He made both to RULE…and it was GOOD.

VI. **Sun / Moon Look back at the sun and moon.**

1. Interesting that the moon has no light source of it’s own.
2. It’s light only comes from a reflection of the sun

*Example: solar sidewalk lights*

1. God created it this way. Why?

**At the beginning of worshiping God for who He is, I was so drawn to God as CREATOR and now, LIGHT. Not one detail is trivial in creation BECAUSE ALL OF CREATION POINTS TO THE CREATOR. It is God’s personality poured out on the universe. Not one detail is trivial in the tabernacle. The priests were told never to let the candles go out in the tabernacle. THERE’S NO DARKNESS IN HEAVEN…AND THE SUN NEVER STOPS SHINING.**

* 1. Isn’t it a perfect picture of THE light?
	2. LIGHT OF THE WORLD YOU STEPPED OUT INTO DARKNESS…there was a second light to rule the darkness. It was a lesser light, but God said it was good.
	3. While Jesus, the light of the dark world, was on the earth, He said of Himself that He could do nothing of His own accord. Yes, He was fully God…but He was also fully man.
		1. *\*\*\*Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.* John 5:19
		2. *I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.* John 5:30
		3. *For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.* ***50****And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”* John 12:49

* 1. *The Son was light to a dark world (moon) fully God and fully man. Totally dependent on the Father for His every move during this season.*
	2. *Weaker light …still rules the night. Remember the scriptures we read about the darkness receiving Him not? While He was here on this earth, He was a light in the darkness.*
	3. *Mount of transfiguration- glorified body…*
1. **180 degree-full moon…full reflection**
	1. We can look in a night sky on any given night and see a different shape of the moon.
	2. It’s all about positioning
	3. 180 degree alignment…full moon.
	4. Full face of the sun shining on the full face of the moon.
	5. Passover…Eqyptians worshiped sun gods. God delivered the Israelites to worship the true LIGHT. Full moon is the setting for Passover…
	6. **Jesus had to be in perfect 180 degree alignment with the Father to be able to say, “Not my will, but Thine be done” to submit to the cross. Interesting, huh?**

VII. **When we see Him as He is, we will be like Him**

 A. Light to a dark world

 *Dinners, bible studies, kindness, etc. isn’t enough.*

B. God chooses to use us.

(God can come directly from heaven as a light to this day…Paul, Acts 22)

VIII. **Self righteousness**

1. We are nothing without Him but can do all things through Christ. WE HAVE NO LIGHT SOURCE OF OUR OWN.

2. The astronauts were surprised that the moon was just ugly gray…similar to asphalt. Much different than we see from here. THAT’S A PICTURE OF US WITHOUT CHRIST.

3. The moon has nothing in and of itself that glows apart from the sun. The sidewalk solar lights. WE HAVE NOTHING IN AND OF OURSELVES THAT SHINES APART FROM CHRIST.

4. The Father designed it that way and called the moon to rule over the darkness. WE ARE TO RULE IN THE DARK WORLD.

5. Busyness, apathy, life, fear, sin, unrighteousness, doubt are just a few of the many things that keep us from positioning ourselves to receive face on from the Lord.

6. Perfect alignment…That’s what it’s going to take in the age in which we live. For ourselves and for others. PREPARE< PREPARE< PREPARE

***\*\*\*\*\*\*WE HAVE NOTHING TO BE SELF RIGHTEOUS ABOUT\*\*\*\*\****

*We fully face Him…open hearted saying, “Do all that’s in your heart to do.” (the key of David) We don’t have to work it up. We don’t have to strive. We can’t take the credit for good things…****just like the moon can’t brag for being light****. We just surrender and receive. That’s our job. Surrender and receive. WHEN WE’VE ABSORBED THE LIGHT FROM THE SON…WE WILL RADIATE FROM OUR VERY PORES…LIKE MOSES…AND TRULY BE LIGHT IN A DARK WORLD. A simple thing is simple to do.*

*Why? For our bridegroom King….*

***Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, “Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s wife.” 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.* Revelation 22:9-11**