

Walking and Living in The Light and Living by the Spirit's Power. - Part 1

(How do we let His light shine through us into a dark world and be ministers of the New Covenant?)

1. Brief recap from last meeting; we discussed...

- We dove into God disciplining, rebuking, and chastising those He loves and Christ's warning "
- about being lukewarm in **Rev. 3:15-22. v. 3:19 (NLT)** being one that really stood out: "*I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference*".
- We talked about learning to yield and submit to the authority of the Lord and let Him do His work in and through us and how that is where we will find rest for our souls. We can be spiritually disciplined while at the same time experiencing rest.
- We talked about fighting off this lukewarmness by being sober-minded, watchful, alert, vigilant and self-disciplined, standing firm and continuing in the faith.
- We ended with putting on the full armor of light: **Rom. 13:12** - Believer's Bible Commentary *"The present age is like a night of sin that has just about run its course. The day of eternal glory is about to dawn for believers. This means that we should cast off all the filthy garments of worldliness—that is, everything associated with unrighteousness and evil. And we should put on the armor of light, which means the protective covering of a holy life. The pieces of armor are detailed in Eph. 6:14–18.*
- This leads us straight into our study on "Walking and Living in The Light and Living by the Spirit's Power"

2. Christ is Supreme, He is the True Bread that came down from Heaven and the True Light that came into the world He created.

- a) I want to start with Christ being supreme, the one true light that came into the world, the true bread that came down from Heaven and the good news that all who believe in Him will no longer be in darkness because they have received His light at salvation.
- b) Our starting point:
 - Christ is supreme.
 - He is the True Bread that came down from Heaven!
 - He is the One True Light who came into the very world that He created.
 - Believers are no longer living in darkness.
 - Believers are delivered out of darkness into His light.
- c) Let's start with: Christ is supreme. Col. 1:15-18 (NKJV). (See commentary below)
- d) Christ is the true bread that came down from Heaven! **Jn. 6:51-71 (NLT/AMP)**
Full context **Jn. 22-71**. Also see notes below on **Jn. 17:4-5**.
- e) The Word became flesh. The one true light who came into the very world that He created.
Let's read through **Jn. 1:1-14 (AMPC)**.

f) Now let's focus on **Jn. 1:9**. - His light is not in all of humanity, it is shining on all humanity. In **v. 1:9** we see in the **AMPC** version above it says "The true light coming into the world that illuminates every person", i.e. shines upon, not in. Other translations: (**KJV**) "which lighteth every man", (**NKJV**) "which gives light to every man", (**ESV**) "which gives light to everyone", (**NASB**) "enlightens every person", (**NLT**) "who gives light to everyone". This passage does not mean that all humanity now has the light of Christ within them because He came into the world. This light must be received through faith. We have free will to receive or reject this light. God the Father made a way for salvation through Christ's sacrifice on the cross and that way and only way, is by believing in His Son, Jesus Christ

g) His light is received at salvation. Because He came into the world His true light is now available for all to receive through and by faith.

3. Believers once in full darkness but now have Light from the Lord, the Light that leads to life!

a) I want to point out that prior to faith in Christ we were in darkness, His light is shining on all men, is available to all men through faith in Him, but until one believes in Christ He is in darkness. When one believes in Christ they are transferred out of that darkness and into His light. His light is shining on all of humanity, but it must be "received" through faith. Let's walk through some scriptures that talk about this.

b) **Eph. 5:8-9 (NLT)** "*For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord.*" Note the "you" in "*but now you have the light of the Lord*" is believers. Unbelievers have no light in them. When one believes in Jesus Christ through faith, He (the true light - **Jn. 1:9**) moves in and replaces darkness with His light.

c) **Jn. 8:12 (NLT)**. "*Jesus said: If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.*" – To "follow Jesus" means to "believe in Him".

d) **Jn. 12:46 (AMPC)** "*I have come as a Light into the world, so that whoever believes in Me may not continue to live in darkness.*"

e) **Col. 1:11-14 (NLT)** "He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and has transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son."

f) **1 Thes. 5:4 (AMP)** "But you, believers, [all you who believe in Christ as Savior and acknowledge Him as God's Son] are not in spiritual darkness [nor held by its power]..."

I want to walk through some commentaries on **Jn. 1:9**, **Col. 1:13**, **Jn. 6:51-59** and **Jn. 12:46**. See the last two pages of this study.

- The Grace New Testament, BibleRef & Believer's Bible Commentaries on **Jn. 1:9**.
- Believer's Bible Commentary on **Col. 1:13**.
- Believer's Bible Commentary on **Jn. 6:51, 53, 56**.
- Believer's Bible Commentary on **Jn. 12:46**.

*See commentaries below.

4. We (believers) can walk in the Light and live as Children of the Light because we now (through faith in Christ) have the Holy Spirit in us and as a result have the True Light shining and living in our hearts.

- a) Christ is supreme, He is the one true light that came into the world, He is the true bread that came down from Heaven and this light, this true bread is in all believers! **Jn. 14:23; Col. 1:26-27; 1 Jn. 4:13,15; Rom. 8:10; Gal. 2:20, 3:26-28; Eph. 3:17; Jn. 14:20.** (group reading)
- b) We (believers) are the temple of the living God. **1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19, 2 Cor. 6:16.**
- c) The Holy Spirit is what makes it possible for the one true light to be “in” us believers and makes it possible for believers to walk in the light and live as children of the light.
Jn.14:16-7, 26, 16:12-15, 1 Cor. 2:10-12. – When did we receive the Holy Spirit? When we believed in Christ. The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of Christ or The Spirit of His Son. We can walk in the light and live as children of the light because the One True Light is living in us (believers) because of the Holy Spirit!
- d) Christ; The True Light Shining in Our Hearts: **1 Jn. 4:9-10 (ESV/TPT), 2 Cor. 4:6-7 (NLT).**
- e) Believers should be walking in the light: **Jn. 12:35-36 (NLT).**
- f) Believers should be living as children of the light: **Eph. 4:17-32 (NLT).**
1 Thes. 5:4-8 (AMP) “*But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.*”
Cross reference of **1 Thes. 5:4-8 > Eph. 6:10-18**: protected by the full armor.
- g) Believers should be living in the light: **Eph. 5:1-14 (NLT), 1 Jn. 1:5-7 (AMPC).**

Homework for more context:

Christ is the true bread that came down from Heaven! **Jn. 6:22-71 (NLT)** - God the Father made a way for salvation through Christ’s sacrifice on the cross and that way and only way, is by believing in His Son, Jesus Christ: **Mk. 1:15; Jn. 3:1-8, 16-17, 36, 5:24, 14:6, 20:31; Acts 4:12, 16:17, 31; Rom. 10:4-17; Gal. 2:16; Rom. 10:9-13, 17; Eph. 1:13-14, 2:8-10; 2 Tim. 1:9. Jn. 3:1-8 Heb.11:1; 1 Jn. 4:15, 5:4.** - The Holy Spirit is what make it possible for the one true light to be “in” us believers and makes it possible for believers to walk in the light and live as children of the light. Read all of **Jn. 14:1-17:26, Gal. 3.** - Believers should be living as children of the light: **Eph. 4:17 – 5:20.**

Commentaries on Jn. 1:9 and Col. 1:13, Jn. 6:51-59 and Jn. 12:46.

Believer's Bible Commentary on Col. 1:18 - "***The firstborn from the dead.*** Here again we must be careful to emphasize that this does not mean that the Lord Jesus was the first to rise from the dead. There were cases of resurrection in the OT as well as in the NT. But the Lord Jesus was the first to rise from the dead to die no more, He was the first to rise with a glorified body, and He rose as the Head of a new creation. His resurrection is unique, and is the pledge that all who trust in Him will also rise. It proclaims Him as supreme in the spiritual creation." – I also wanted to add definition of "Preeminence" – Superior over all.

The Grace New Testament Commentary on Jn. 1:9 - "By coming into the world He gives light to every man in the sense that the truth is available to all. He made a way for all to receive the light and that way is through faith in Him."

BibleRef Commentary on Jn. 1:9 - "There is no room to see Jesus as one way to heaven, or a possible way. He is the one and only, real and true way. Unlike the law of Moses, which was given only to the people of Israel, this light is given to everyone—to the entire world. The best-known verse in the entire Bible, John 3:16, sums this up by saying that God loved the entire world enough to send His Son for the salvation of anyone who believes in Him. Not all people will choose to accept that light, however. Some will deliberately stay in the dark."

Jn. 1:9 Believer's Bible Commentary - "***That was the true Light.*** Other persons down through the ages have claimed to be guides and saviors, but the One to whom John witnessed was the genuine **Light**, the best and the truest **Light**. Another translation of this verse is, "The true Light, which, **coming into the world**, gives light to every man." In other words, the expression **coming into the world** may describe **the true Light** rather than **every man**. It was by the coming of the **true Light** ... **into the world** that every man was given light. This does not mean that every man has received some inward knowledge concerning Christ. Neither does it mean that all men have heard about the Lord Jesus at one time or another. Rather, it means that the **Light** shines on all people. It also means that by shining on all men, the Lord Jesus has revealed men in their true character. By His coming into the world as the perfect Man, He has shown how imperfect other men are. When a room is in darkness, you do not see the dust on the furniture. But when the light goes on, the room is seen as it actually is. In that same sense, the shining of the true Light reveals man as he actually is." ~ One has to believe in Christ to "receive" His light.

Col. 1:13 Believer's Bible Commentary - In making us "qualified ... to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light," God **has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love** (cf. 1 Jn. 2:11). This can be illustrated by the experience of the children of Israel, as recorded in Exodus. They had been living in Egypt, groaning under the lashes of the taskmasters there. By a marvelous act of divine intervention, God delivered them out of that fearful bondage and led them through the wilderness to the promised land. Similarly, as sinners we were in bondage to Satan, but through Christ we have been **delivered from** his clutches and now we are subjects of Christ's **kingdom**. Satan's kingdom is one of **darkness**—an absence of light, warmth, and joy; while the **kingdom** of Christ is one of **love**, which implies the presence of all three (light, warmth, and joy).

Kingdom of darkness: The absence of light, warmth, and joy.

Kingdom of His dear Son: The presence of light, warmth, and joy.

Jn. 6:51 Believer's Bible Commentary - *"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever"* - Jesus is the living bread. Those who eat this bread will live forever. But how can this be? How can the Lord give eternal life to guilty sinners? The answer is found in the latter part of this verse: "The bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." Here the Lord Jesus was pointing forward to His death on the cross. He would give His life as a ransom for sinners. His body would be broken, and His blood would be poured out as a sacrifice for sins. He would die as a Substitute. (Propitiation). He would pay the penalty that our sins demanded. And why would He do this? He did it for the life of the world. He would not die just for the Jewish nation, or even just for the elect. But His death would be of sufficient value for the whole world. This does not, of course, mean that the whole world will be saved, but rather that the work of the Lord Jesus at Calvary would be sufficient in its value to save the whole world, if all men came to Jesus.

Jn. 6:53 Believer's Bible Commentary - *"I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you cannot have eternal life within you."* - Once again Jesus, knowing all things, realized exactly what they were thinking and saying. And so, He warned them solemnly that if they did not eat His flesh and drink His blood, they would have no life in them. This could not refer to the bread and the wine used at the Lord's Supper. When the Lord instituted His Supper, on the night in which He was betrayed, his body had not yet been broken and His blood had not yet been shed. The disciples partook of the bread and the wine, but they did not literally eat His flesh and drink His blood. The Lord Jesus was simply stating that unless we appropriate to ourselves by faith the value of His death for us on Calvary, we can never be saved. **We must believe on Him, receive Him, trust Him, and make Him our very own.** ~ Believe in Christ and receive His finished work. – This is how we eat His flesh and drink His blood. - *Believe on Him, receive Him, trust Him, read his Word, Pray, talk with and have relationship with Christ.*

Jn. 6:56 Believer's Bible Commentary - *"Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him."* - A very close union exists between Himself and those who are believers in Him. Whoever eats His flesh and drinks His blood abides in Him, and He abides in that person. Nothing could be closer or more intimate than this. When we eat literal food, we take it into our very being; and it becomes a part of us. When we accept the Lord Jesus as our Redeemer, He comes into our lives to abide, and we, too, abide (continually dwell) in Him.

Jn. 12:46 Believer's Bible Commentary - *"I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark."* - The illustration of light was apparently one of our Lord's favorites. Again, He referred to Himself as a light coming into the world in order that those who believe in Him should not abide in darkness. Apart from Christ, men are in deepest darkness. They do not have a right understanding of life, death, or eternity. But those who come to Christ in faith no longer grope about for the truth, because they have found the truth in Him. – (and now Abide in Christ). We mostly read the word "abide" in scripture and think of "Abiding in Christ." We don't often think about "abiding in darkness", but that is the state of an unbeliever.

Definition of "abide" = to remain, to continue to be present, to be held, kept, continually.

One can reject Christ and remain in darkness, continue to be in darkness, held and kept by darkness continually. -**Or-** One can believe in Christ and remain in Him, continue to be in Him, held and kept by Him continually.

Homework: The Extended Version

The Lord's Supper (communion) is mentioned in: **1 Cor. 11:23-26, Mat. 26:26-29, Mk. 14:22-25, Lk. 22:17-20**, however in John's Gospel it is very different! We can see in the Commentary for **Jn. 6:51, 53 and 56** above that what Jesus is getting to in regards to eating His flesh and drinking His blood is about relationship.

I recommend this article that is related to Jesus referring to eating His flesh and drinking His blood in **Jn. 6:22-71**.

What did Jesus mean when He said we must eat His flesh and drink His blood?

Speaking to a crowd of Jews in **Jn. 12:1-4** there is reference to the last supper but not the bread and wine. But earlier in **Jn. 6:32-59** Jesus mentions the bread and the wine in a very different way regarding eating His flesh and drinking His blood and what that means. You must read all of **Jn. ch. 6** to get the context of what John is saying in **v. 32-71**.

Also note: taking Jn. Chapter 6 into consideration, the disciples heard Jesus teach about the bread and wine, (the flesh and the blood) prior to the last supper. It was not a new concept for the disciples at the last supper when Christ, as note in Mt. 26:26-29 for example: "*broke the bread and said "take and eat; this is my body" and held up the cup of wine and said "Drink from it, all of you, this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*"

Also wanted to point out Jesus' prayer in **John 17**. Specifically verses **4-5 (AMPC)**.

"I have glorified You down here on the earth by completing the work that You gave Me to do. And now, Father, glorify Me along with Yourself and restore Me to such majesty and honor in Your presence as I had with You before the world existed." Connect this with **Phil. 2:7-8 (AMPC)** "*But stripped Himself [of all privileges and rightful dignity], so as to assume the guise of a servant (slave), in that He became like men and was born a human being..."*"

He had to leave this glory to come to earth. Christ is the True bread that came down from Heaven and He is the True Light that came into the world He created. He had to leave the glory He had in Heaven with the Father and The Holy Spirit to come down to earth. Not only was suffering and dying on the cross a sacrifice, but leaving the glory He had with the Father and The Holy Spirit to come to earth was also a sacrifice.

He is praying to the Father to "restore" this glory He had before the world existed. Meaning He had to leave that glory to come to earth. **WOW!!!**

When we read about Christ being the Bread that came down from Heaven and the True Light that came into the world. We need to remember what He sacrificed with having to leave the glory He had with the Father and Holy Spirit to come down to earth to provide salvation to all who will believe and receive Him.