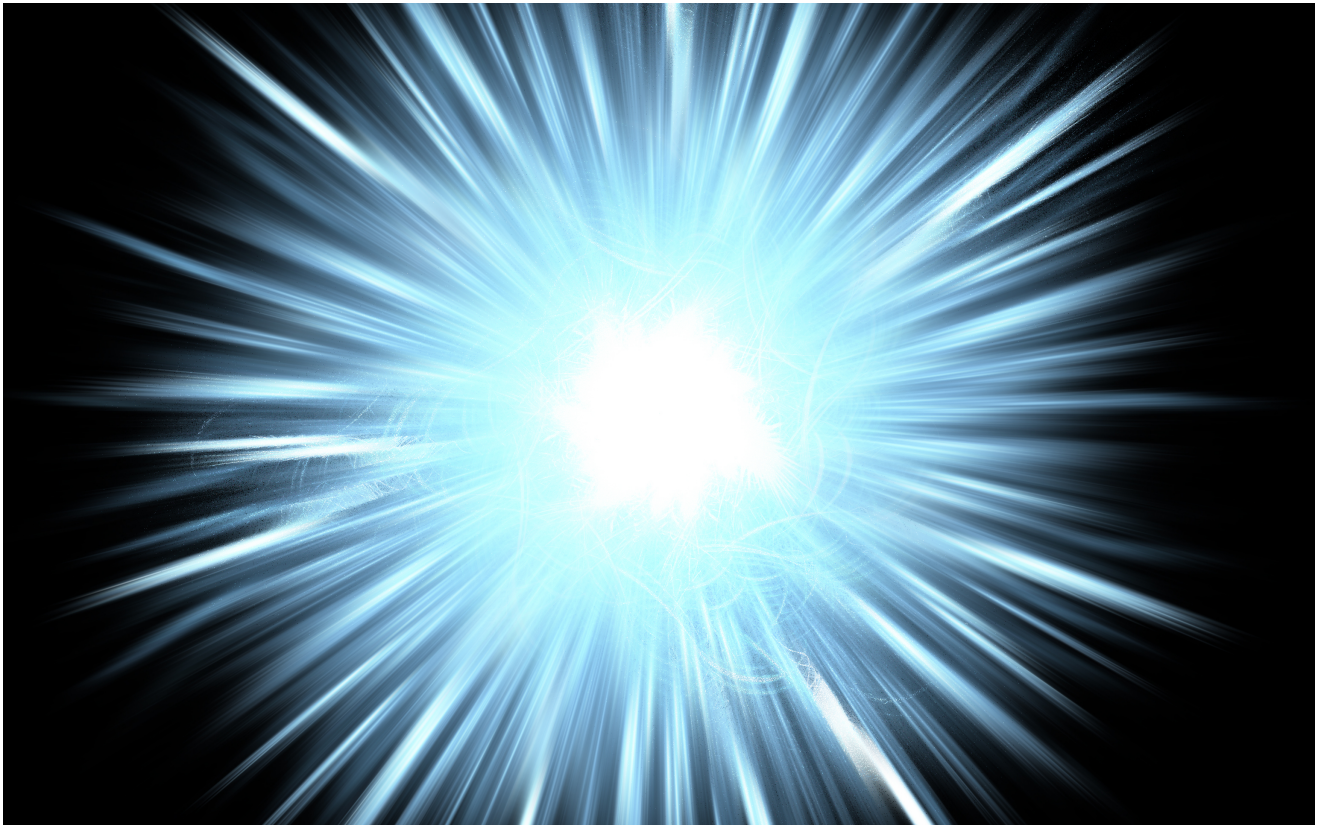

THE TRUTH HERALD

You Are The Light Of The World!



1 - This then is the message we have heard of him, and declare unto you. God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5) "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (James 1:17). You are children of light and children of the day. (1 Thess. 5:5a)

God is light. "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you. God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5). Jesus, the Son of God, is the light of the world. Jesus said: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." (James 1:17). We, as children of God, are children of light. "Ye are children of light and children of the day: we are not of the night nor of the darkness." (1 Thess. 5:5). We are to let our lights shine before men that they may see our good works and give the glory to our Father in heaven. (Matt. 5:16)

2 - Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives 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. (Matt. 5: 14 - 16)

The light in us comes from God. We have no light in us independent of God. Therefore, to let our lights shine, we must first have the life of God in us. The way to do this is to receive and follow his only begotten son Jesus Christ, that is, to become adopted sons and daughters of God.

3 - In him was life and the life was the light of men (John 1:4). I come as a light into the world, that whosoever believe on me should not abide in darkness. (John 12:46)

We come into and abide in the light by believing in Jesus and following him. "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. (John 12:46). Once we believe in Christ Jesus and receive him as our Lord and Savior, the Spirit of God, that is, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. However, we as children of light are commanded to let this light shine for all to see. This tells us that having the light is not enough. We must intentionally let this light shine for all to see. And our objective in letting the light in us shine is so that our Father in heaven gets glorified by all who see us.

4 - The light of the body is in the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. (Matt. 6:33; Luke 11:34). God is love. (1 John 4:8b)

Singular focus on knowing and doing the will of God keeps us in the light, because God is light. (Matt. 6:23; Luke 11:34). His will is always found in love as the two greatest commandments teach us: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength ... And Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. (Mark 12: 30;31). How much we love our neighbors shows others how much we love God. And it is a reflection of how much we are letting our lights shine. "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. (1 John 2:10). The sovereign God who is light is also love. "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. (1 John 4: 8,9). To love one another then is to let our lights shine for God's glory.

5 - I am the way, the truth, and the life (John 4:16)

Jesus is the light (i.e., the way); he is also the truth, and the life. To know the truth and do it is to let our lights shine for God's glory. Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). The Lord told his disciples: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of Truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak ... ". (John 16:13). We follow Jesus by following the leading of the Spirit of God; to follow Jesus is to follow the truth (John 14:16); and to follow Jesus is to abide in the light (John 12:46). For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God (Romans 8:14). To follow the leading of the Holy Spirit is to let our light shine for God's glory.

6 - Jesus said to those Jews which believed in him, If ye continue in my word, then ye are my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:32)

Freedom comes with abiding in the light, walking in love and in truth: the truth concerning our relationship with God; with our families, relatives, friends, colleagues and people we do not know; the truth concerning our lives at home, at work, in church, in our neighborhoods ... in all domains; the truth concerning our health, our intelligence, ... our spirits, our souls, our bodies ... every aspect of our lives. As we gain freedom in Christ, we must continue to walk in it and not backslide into bondage. The Holy Spirit will help us if we allow him to. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not tangled again with the yoke of bondage." (Gal. 5:1).