



August 26, 2007

Light

Looking at the things God has left as reminders of his presence and power, perhaps the most prevalent, and loved is light. Light is essential for life and growth. It is the aspect of nature that can heal, cause growth, destroy and provide other byproducts such as the heat energy we receive from the sun. Light is a phenomenon. We can describe it's presence, identify it's absence and describe some of it's known properties. We find that light moves and behaves as particle energy and as a waveform. In the case of the solar wind, it is responsible for electromagnetic disturbances in the world. It is essential to the climate and overall health of the planet making the Earth unique in the system we are part of. In the beginning light was the first thing created by God (**Gen 1.3**). It was the creation of light that defined that which was not light, or darkness. Interestingly, light was created two days before the great "*lamps*", the sun and moon, that were set in the heavens to mark the passage of day into night and the waxing and waning of the seasons (**Gen 1.14-19**). The abode of God is described in terms of light, a fitting analogy for the creator of all things. Speaking of this Paul states, "*Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.*" (**1 Tim 6.16**). Light itself cannot be seen but makes other things visible by the way in which they reflect it. Light is therefore representative of life and growth, vitality and invigoration as well as rejuvenation. God embodies these qualities as well. He gives and sustains life in the preservation of all things through his spirit who maintains the creation. The existence of light speaks to us of God's magnificence and His power to achieve those things that he says He will do. The Lord is associated with brightness and glory and images of His presence in the scriptures are accompanied by things such as light, the rainbow and even lightning. James refers to God as the father of lights (**Jas 1.17**). Paul refers to those who follow after God in similar terms. "*Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the*

day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." (**1 Thess 5.5**). God's word is that which is referred to as the light that can lead and guide us in an otherwise uncertain world. David writes, "*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*" (**Psm 119.105**). The effect of God's word is to enlighten, to teach us of the nature of God and how it is that we can be pleasing to Him. Christ referred to believers who follow him faithfully in a similar fashion. "*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.*" (**Matt 5.14**). The knowledge of God is such that when one is filled with his word, we are filled with the light that has come from the Lord. As Christ came into the world he is described in this manner as well. "*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**). Christ came into the world to provide the completion of the knowledge of God. This was done through the word of truth which was spoken and recorded for all time. Those who have a good and honest heart will seek light, the righteousness of God and will find it in the pages of the scriptures. The Devil on the other hand seeks to deceive and cause humans to fail to see this great light. "*But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 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.*" (**2 Cor 4.3-4**). There are some who think that they will be able to find God outside of the revealed word. The Devil seeks to confuse and blind those who are not diligent in their search and who will not attend to the word that has been delivered. Those who fail to grasp this will remain in the darkness of ignorance and will not be saved, nor will they reap the eternal reward promised to those who diligently seek him (**Heb 11.6**).

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