

The Gospel of John: Light in the Darkness

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Has Been Sent by the Father to be the Light of the World;

John 8:12-20

John 7:31-32 But many of the crowd believed in Him; and they were saying, "When the Christ comes, He will not perform more signs than those which this man has done, will He?" The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to arrest Him.

Context of the next several verses: the attempted arrest and trial of Jesus Christ by the religious leaders

John 7:37-39 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" But this He said in reference to the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The claim of Christ: "The one who believes in Me will be transformed from the inside out."

John 7:43-46 So a dissension occurred in the crowd because of Him. And some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken in this way!"

The reason for the failure of the plan, two fold, "Never has a man spoken in this way!" and His time had not come (8:30)

John 7:47-49 The Pharisees then replied to them, "You have not been led astray too, have you? Not one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he? But this crowd that does not know the Law is accursed!"

The crowd does not know the Law

John 7:50-52 Nicodemus (the one who came to Him before, being one of them) said to them, "Our Law does not judge the person unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, does it?" They answered and said to him, "You are not from Galilee as well, are you? Examine the Scriptures, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee."

Nicodemus: "We are not following OUR LAW."

Religious leaders: "He's a Galilean. That's all the evidence we need."

John 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

The Claim of Christ, "I am the Light of the world" The twofold nature of light in the scriptures: right knowledge and right behavior leading to right relationship to God.

Pic from Candelabras in the temple area and description of the feast of Tabernacles

John 8:13 So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not true."

More legal statements from the Pharisees.

John 8:14-15 Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I am testifying about Myself, My testimony is true, because I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge according to the flesh; I am not judging anyone."

John 8:16-18 "But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent Me. Even in your Law it has been written that the testimony of two people is true. I am He who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me." How has the Father testified about His Son?

1. In prophetic statements in the Scriptures
2. In the divine revelation of the coming of Christ provided to Elizabeth, Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph. "He will be the Son of the most high."
3. In the divine revelation of the birth of Christ to the shepherds.
4. In the divine revelation to Anna and Simeon in the temple.
5. In the divine revelation to the wise men from the east.
6. In the preaching ministry of John the Baptist
7. In the baptism testimony of the Father and the Spirit. "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."
8. In the miraculous signs performed by Jesus in the name of the Father.
9. In the divine teaching that Jesus claimed to be from the Father.
10. In His sovereignty over His own death as a fulfillment of His Father's perfect plan.
11. In the power of the resurrection verified by multiple eyewitnesses on multiple occasions of the resurrected Christ, whom they saw, heard, and touched.
12. In the multiple eyewitness accounts of the ascension of Christ back to the right hand of His Father.

John 8:19 So they were saying to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also."

John 8:20 These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple area; and no one arrested Him, because His hour had not yet come.