

The Essentials of Our Faith – Studies In I John #3

God Is Light There Can Be No Darkness With Him

I John 1:5-7

I. God Is Light! VS 5

A. Old Testament parallelisms

- Psalm 46:1
- Psalm 55:1

B. Positive and negative

- Light
- No darkness at all

C. Light

- I John – light = truth
 1. John 1:9
 2. I John 1:6
- Old Testament idea
 1. Light = finding the path – Isaiah 9:2, Psalm 119:105
 2. Light = the character of God – Psalm 27:1
- John 14:6
- We find the way in the truth that is Jesus Christ, and because of that way we find the very source of light and truth, which is God Himself.

D. John declares that God is not only the source of life but also of light and truth

- God shows the way
- Nothing else does
- No falsehood in Him – darkness

E. This is the message from God that John is telling us

F. No fear of truth in any area

- God is the source of all truth
- The foe of all falsehood

G. When Jesus is Lord of our lives then we see who the Father is, who we are, and where we are. On the right road or the wrong road - Clarity

II. Life In The Darkness! VS 6

A. What the false teachers were saying

- We have fellowship with God

- But it doesn't impact the way we live
- God only cares about our heart (soul)

B. Not so, says John

- God who is light impacts our lives with light

C. Walking or living – a way of life

D. The truth is not in them – walking in darkness

E. They don't do the truth – John 3:21

F. They stay in darkness so that the light doesn't reveal or expose their sin

III. Life In The Light! VS 7

A. The evidence of walking in the light is fellowship with each other because,

B. Our sins have been forgiven

C. We walk in the light, which exposes our sin and failure, but as we walk we are encouraged by the blood (Life, Old Testament) of Jesus who cleanses our sin and keeps us in the light

D. The false teachers left the fellowship because of their "superior" light (darkness)

E. Fellowship is the result of a candid assessment of sin and a healing experience of forgiveness through Christ.

F. Walking in the light is the only way we can walk with each other in gratitude and joy.

IV. Thoughts

A. Jesus is a lamp unto our feet. Jesus not only brings light to the center of my life, but also brings meaning to the parts of my life. Jesus and His revelation of God is the only reality that can integrate my whole life.

B. Is the forgiveness of God in Christ at the center of our fellowship?

- Those in the light have an ongoing sense of needing forgiveness and being forgiven
- We can't be judgmental because, "there but for the grace of God go I"
- When community is forged in the context of grace, generosity and mercy become commonplace.
- When we walk in the light we discover lives that are knit together by God's redemption and forgiveness. To walk in the light is ultimately humbling. But at the same time it is also healing, renewing and invigorating.