

Sermon Outlines

Christ As The Light - Part 1

Readings

- a) Jn. 1:4; 8:12; Heb. 1:1-3 - Christ is the brightness of glory, the outshining of glory.
- b) 1 Jn. 1:5 - Light is the character of God.

Introduction

Light is a simile to which the Lord made use of a number of times in John's gospel.

He is:

- a) "The Light of Men" (Jn. 1:4)
- b) "The Light, which lighteth every man" (Jn. 1:9)
- c) "The Light of the world" (Jn. 8:12)
- d) "The Light to the Gentiles" (Isa. 49:6)

When the Lord is spoken of as "Light", what are some of the truths signified?

(The individual is left to develop these relative to the Lord)

Light is connected to:

- a) Truth, for we read of: "Thy light and Thy truth" (Psa. 43:3)
- b) The Gospel, for by it we are given the: "light of the knowledge of the glory of God" (2 Cor. 4:6)
- c) Moral understanding and illumination:
 - i) "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light" (Matt. 6:22)
 - ii) "If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light" (Lk. 11:36)
 - iii) "No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light" (Lk. 8:16)
 - iv) "Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?" (Lk. 15:8)
- d) Unchangeability: "God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 Jn. 1:5) and He is:
 - i) Unchangeable in word:
 - 1. "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" (Num. 23:19)
 - ii) Unchangeable in purpose:
 - 1. "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" (Isa. 46:10)
 - iii) Unchangeable in character:
 - 1. "For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed" (Mal. 3:6)
 - 2. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (Jam. 1:17)
 - iv) Unchangeable in Blessings:
 - 1. "For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Rom. 11:29)
 - v) Unchangeable in duration:
 - 1. "They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment" (Heb. 1:11)

Sermon Outlines
Christ As The Light - Part 1

vi) Divine Activity:

1. "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (Gen. 1:3)

vii) Witness:

1. "I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles" (Isa. 42:6)

viii) God's guidance:

1. "And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings." (Ex 10:22-23; 13:21; Prov. 4:18)
2. "And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night" (Ex. 13:21)
3. "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18)

ix) Hope:

1. "But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore unto him, saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of Israel" (2 Sam. 21:17)
2. "Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children" (2 Kgs. 8:19)

x) Joy:

1. "The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour" (Est. 8:16)

xi) Righteousness:

1. "And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday" (Psa. 37:6)

xii) Success in divine purposes:

1. "For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them" (Psa. 44:3)

xiii) Perfection of government:

1. "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever" (Rev. 22:5)
2. "And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne" (Rev. 4:5)

xiv) Perfection of illumination:

1. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6)
2. "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb [is] the light thereof" (Rev. 21:23)
3. "Every one that doeth evil hateth the light . . . but he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God" (Jn. 3:20-21)

xv) Perfection of unchanging un-distorting excellence:

1. "Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal" (Rev. 21:11)

Sermon Outlines
Christ As The Light - Part 1

xvi) The favor of God:

1. "There be many that say, Who will shew us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us" (Psa. 4:6)

xvii) The state in which God dwells:

1. "Called you out of darkness into His marvellous light" (1 Pet. 2:9)

xviii) His Judicial and governmental activity:

1. "Before the Throne there were : "seven lamps of fire" (Rev. 4:5)

xix) His manifestation in the millennium:

1. "The city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon . . . for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (Rev. 21:23)

xx) His commandments:

1. "O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles" (Psa. 43:3)

What light is not, and therefore these are never seen in our Lord

1) Light is the opposite of darkness and indicates the cessation of fellowship:

- a) "They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings" (Ex. 10:23)

2) Ignorance and judgment:

- a) "They are of those that rebel against the light; they know not the ways thereof, nor abide in the paths thereof" (Job 24:13)

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia