

Sermon Outlines

Christ As The Light - Part 2

Readings

John 1:9

Introduction

- 1) The ease with which we make assumptions:
 - a) How many times is the expression “I am” used in John’s gospel? The normal answer is seven times, commonly known as the great “I Am’s” of the Lord.
 - b) Reality is, the clause is used in 59 verses.
 - c) Explain that the identical words are used of John Baptist (Jn. 1:20, 23, 27; 3:28); by the lame man (Jn. 5:7); and by Peter (Jn. 18:17, 25).
 - d) It may surprise some that the Lord uses the clause in John to indicate by what authority He came (Jn. 5:43; 7:29); where He will be (Jn. 7:34); where He was from (Jn. 8:23), and indicative of His eternality (Jn. 8:58).
- 2) Because of this it is my suggestion that the expression “I am” is not always used to indicate His deity, but it is only as the whole clause is used that the deity of the Lord is taught. Consider the following clauses and it is seen that the clause “I am” on its own would not indicate deity, but it is when it is used with the words “the Way”, etc., that the truth of His deity shines forth.
 - a) “I am the Bread of Life” and its associates (Jn. 6:35, 41, 48, 51).
 - b) “I am the door” and its associates (Jn. 10:7, 9)
 - c) “I am the good Shepherd” (Jn. 10:11, 14)
- 3) Our meditation is on the Lord as the Light
 - a) John records the Lord being described as:
 - i) “The / that Light” (Jn. 1:7, 9)
 - ii) “The True Light, which lighteth every man” (Jn. 1:9)
 - iii) “The Light of the world” (Jn. 8:12; 9:5)
 - iv) “I am come a Light into the world” (Jn. 12:46)

What is “Light”?

- 1) A scientist would possibly answer, “Light is the name for a range of electromagnetic radiation that can be detected by the human eye”.
- 2) When God uses the term “Light” when speaking of Divine persons, it indicates:
 - a) His being the perfect manifestation of the character of God, for “God is Light”. (1 Jn. 1:5)
 - b) His unchangeability, for God is the “Father of Lights” with whom there is no variableness (Jam. 1:17). Christ is therefore the Light who illuminates without distortion, diffusion, or diminishing.
 - c) His moral perfection for God is Light and: “In Him is no darkness at all” (1 Jn. 1:5)

The Singularity of Christ As The Light

- 1) The world into which the Lord came was a world of spiritual confusion due to the multiplicity of religions and the reasonings of man. Man has not changed, for today there is the same multiplicity of religions, reasonings of men, and spiritual confusion. Thank God amid the confusion of the clamoring voices of religions and denominations Christ stands as the singular Voice of authority. Unashamedly, and without contradiction, He proclaims for all to hear: “I am the Light of the world” (Jn. 8:12).

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It is:

- a) Personal - "I"
 - b) Perpetual - "am"
 - c) Exclusive - "The Light"
 - d) Universal - "of the world"
- 2) He is the Light which lighteth every man, being without peer or equal, for no other religious leader can remove the:
- a) Spiritual blindness and darkness caused by sin
 - b) Emotional darkness cause by the unknown and sorrow
- 3) As the Light He alone brings illumination:
- a) "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)
 - b) "To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Lk. 1:79)
 - c) "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel" (Lk. 2:32)

The Results of Christ Being The Light And in The World

As the Light the Lord:

- a) Manifested the purpose of life, which is to glorify God on the earth (Jn. 17:4), and in that pathway He was un-curtailed by the man made traditions of man, but obeyed and fulfilled the laws of God (Mk. 7:9-13). He was unrestricted by the accepted cultures of man (Jn. 4:9), and unbounded by the implicated or open control of man (Jn. 2:3; 7:3).
- b) Exposed and judged with justice and consistency:
 - i) He rebuked the disciples when they were wrong just as He rebuked the Pharisees (Mk. 10:13-14; Matt. 23:13-33)
 - ii) He evaluated, rebuked and warned of judgment on the churches (Rev. chs. 2-3) before executing judgment on the world (Rev. chs. 6-19).
- c) Left no excuse for man's continued blindness:
 - i) When the Lord said: "I am the Light of the world", He exposed man's corruption (Jn. 8:7-9); the farcical character of man's hypocrisy (Jn. 8:5); and the infiniteness of divine grace (Jn. 8:11).
- d) He will be the Illuminator in the millennium:
 - i) "The city had no need of the sun . . . for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof" (Rev. 21:23)
 - ii) "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)
- e) He illuminated life and immortality:
 - i) "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Tim. 1:10)
- f) By His work God has been able to enlighten humanity to the fulness of Christ for salvation:
 - i) "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. 4:4)
 - ii) "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)

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- g) Enabled humanity to be:
 - i) “The children of light, and the children of the day” (1 Thess. 5:5)
 - ii) “Partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light” (Col. 1:12)

Man’s Decision Depending on If It Is a Gospel or Ministry Setting

As an individual, each one must make a decision:

- a) Will I come to the Light and have my deeds reproved, see the fulness of the propitiatory work of Christ, and accept Christ as Lord and Saviour
- OR**
- b) Shall I follow the prince of darkness, rejecting salvation and perish in my sins, banished in Hell for eternity?

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

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