

“Light of the Word”

John #22

John 8:12-20

April 11, 2018

Scripture Reading: John 8:12-20

Series Setup & Introductory Remarks

Prayer

Introduction

Albert Einstein — All these fifty years of conscious brooding have brought me no nearer to the answer to the question, ‘what are light quanta?’ Nowadays, every Tom, Dick, and Harry thinks he knows it, but he is mistaken.

Big Idea: As Jesus is the light, we walk in the light.

I. Commentary & Explanation

Missing the Point | vs. 12-13

- John 5:31 — If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true.
 - Witness #1: John the Baptizer | John 5:32-35
 - Witness #2: Jesus’ Miracles | John 5:36
 - Witness #3: God’s Voice | John 5:37-38
 - Witness #4: The Scriptures | John 5:39-47

Jesus’ Testimony | vs. 14-16

The Father’s Witness | vs. 17-20

II. What Does Jesus Mean When He Says “I am the light of the world?”

Context: Feast of Booths | fall equinox, celebration of water and light

- Mishnah Sukkah 5:2-4 — And four golden candelabras were there, and four golden basins at their heads, and four ladders to each one, **[75 feet]** and [upon them were] four of the rising youth of the priesthood, and in their hands were jars of oil holding 9 liters, which they would pour into each of the basins. From the worn out pants of the priests and from their worn out belts they would tear pieces, and they would use them as wicks to light with them. And there was not a courtyard in Jerusalem that was not illuminated by the light of the place of [water] drawing. Pious people and men of great deeds would dance before them with lit torches in their hands, singing songs and praises, while the Levites played harps, lyres, cymbals, trumpets and innumerable other musical instruments...
- **[LOOKING FORWARD]** Zechariah 14:6-7

- **[LOOKING BACK]** Exodus narrative: Pillar of cloud/fire
 - 1) Salvation | Exodus 14:19-20
 - 2) Guidance | Exodus 13:21-22
 - 3) Presence | Exodus 33:9-11

III. Jesus the Light Is...

1. Our salvation | “the light of life”
2. Our guidance | “whoever follows me”
3. God with us | “I am the light of the world”

IV. Walking in the light

**Tie all of these to Jesus!!

1. Salvation | 2 Timothy 3:5
2. Word | Psalm 119:105
3. Community | 1 John 1:7
4. Mission | Matthew 5:14-16

Conclusion

Are you walking in the light?

Benediction

(adapted from) Psalm 43:3-4 — ³Send your light and your truth; let them lead me. Let them bring me to your holy hill, to your dwelling place. ⁴Then I will come to the altar of God, to God, my greatest joy. I will praise you with music and song, O God, my God.