

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: June 19, 2022

Title: "Light and Darkness"

Title: John 1:4-5, 9-13

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. In his novel, A Tale of Two Cities (1859), Charles Dickens summarizes the era of the French Revolution. In his first couple of sentences, he introduces us to some of the novel's major themes.
2. Like Dickens' introduction, John's prologue (1:1-18) gives us a glimmer of the book's major themes.
3. The stark contrast between Light and Darkness is a striking theme of John's Gospel (1:4-5; 3:19-21; 8:12; 9:5; 12:35-36, 46). In these passages Jesus is presented as the Light who shines in the darkness of this world.
4. No one can really appreciate the light until they've experienced the darkness. You will appreciate the light more, only if you understand the darkness better.

#### A LOOK AT THE " \_\_\_\_\_ " (1:5b)

1. Satan's \_\_\_\_\_ (Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:11-17).  
Rebellion resulted in a name change to Satan (i.e. "adversary")
2. The Rebellion of \_\_\_\_\_ Angels (see Rev. 12:5)  
"His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky & flung them to earth."
3. Adam's ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Rebellion (Gen. 3:1-7).  
*Several tragic consequences resulted from this rebellion:*
4. The Purpose of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Both God and Satan have a purpose for history; but since God is God, and Satan is only a creature (a created being), God's purpose is the ultimate one.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ Promise of the Coming Redeemer: Genesis 3:15  
For the final fulfillment of the "crushing of Satan's head" see Rev. 20:7-10.

## A LOOK AT THE “\_\_\_\_\_” (1:4-5)

1. “In him was life”
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_ life (vs. 3).  
As Creator, Jesus is the source of everything & everything that lives!
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ life (36 times in John's Gospel).  
Examples: John 10:10; 10:27-28; 11:25-26; 14:6; 20:30-31.
2. “And that life was the light of men”  
It is appropriate to make some distinction between life & light, this statement ... “that life was the light of men” ... stops any disconnect between the two. “Light” and “Life” cannot be separated; and they're linked in John 8:12.
3. “The light shines in the darkness.”  
The light is God's life manifest in Christ (John 1:14; compare Heb. 1:1-3).
4. “But the darkness has not **overcome** it” (NIV<sup>2011</sup>)  
See Also: ESV, NRSV, HCSB, CSB, TEV (GNB), NLT, and TM

## RESPONDING TO THE INCARNATE WORD (1:9-13)

1. The Word \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 9)  
“The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.”  
But the light (Jesus) was resisted. Nothing seemed to astonish John more than the resistance to Jesus. John was amazed how quickly and how completely people, both Jews and Gentiles, turned away from Him.
2. The Word **RESISTED** (vss. 10-11)
  - A. By his own \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 10)
  - B. By his own \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 11)
3. The Word \_\_\_\_\_ (vss. 12-13)
  - A. The “formula” for the New Birth (vs. 12)  
*Believe, Receive, Become*
  - B. The nature of the New Birth (vs. 13)  
NIV Study Bible Note: “Membership in God's family is by grace alone—it is the gift of God (see Eph. 2:8-9). It's never a human achievement, as ver. 13 emphasizes. The gift (becoming a child of God) is dependent upon man's reception of it — “Believe” and “Receiving”.