

“The True Light”

By Bob Heitzler

April 15th, 2018

All right, let's turn to Matthew, chapter three, sixteen and seventeen. Matthew, three, sixteen through seventeen:

Matthew 3:16 *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him [Wow! So, you're telling me, that when we get baptized in Jesus' name, the heavens are opened to us? Amen. It's unlimited what's up there. What God has in store for us. Also, he says,], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:*

The Holy Ghost, moving in our lives is part of us now.

Matthew 3:17 *And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

God continues to reveal things to us today, and every day. May we bow our heads for prayer?

God, I want to thank you for giving us this day, today, Jesus. God, even though the weather outside is cold, and icy, and slippery, God, but, God, you made a way for all of us to make it here today, Jesus. God, I pray, right now, that Your Spirit would move among us all of us, that we would learn from Your Word today, Jesus. God, I want to thank you for saving me, many years ago, and saving all of us, God. That we continue to turn to You for Your answer, God, to look for that light, Jesus, in every situation there is, God. I ask this, in Your name I pray, amen.

All right. Today, we're talking about the proper light. Today, we're going to learn about some lights first. There's different types of lights in the world. We know that, right? There is all kinds of lights that we depend on every day. Back in the days, in the Old Testament, their lights was a fire they used to light the way they were going. But, about a hundred thirty-nine years ago, there was a gentleman named Thomas Edison that got together with his researchers in Menlo Park, New Jersey and they did three thousand different types of designs to make a lightbulb. I thought it was a thousand and one; it was three thousand times to make a lightbulb. And, to make the filament, they tried everything. And, I was talking to my dad about this Friday, he said, “Did you know that used human hair?” “No.” I said, “No, I didn't know that Dad.” So I looked it up; they used human hair, they used animal hair, thin bones, they tried every type of thread, and they finally came up with a carbon filament and it was patented in November of 1879, of a carbon filament to create lights. As we walk into Home Depot, for example, you will go into the lighting section, and, you walk in this display, all these lights hanging from the ceiling, hanging from the walls, on top of things, they're all displaying a light. A light. And, one of those is going to catch our eyes, that we're going to purchase, if we're looking for a light, whatever the need that we have. And, keep in mind, those lights are all on display; we are all on display for God with our lights on. And, every one of us have a different calling, and different gifts in our lives to present to whoever walks in the midst of us. Does that make sense?

Also, because all the lights, such as, driving down Belvidere, there's lights, now, for a construction site. As you head West, you have an arrow to get in the other lane. As you come

over the hill there's a flashing light; that tells you you're doing thirty-five or more. And, if you drop down to thirty-four, the light stops flashing. And, keep in mind, when that light's flashing, you know who is a couple of lanes over, waiting? Our Waukegan's fines, is sitting there waiting for us. So, just be careful. If that light's flashing, just slow down, because, the Waukegan's finest will find us, actually; basically. So we've got lights that warn us, give us directions, where to go. We also have warning lights that tell when we're going the wrong way. Truck drivers also have warning lights to let you know if they're going below a certain speed on the highway. When I lived in New England, the trucks, when they're going up a hill, will turn on their flashing lights to let everybody behind them know that they're not going the posted speed limit; to give us warning that, don't approach that vehicle too fast. That's all warning lights for us.

I remember years ago, a story going the wrong way. I was so excited to take Parrish Lee with me to go pick up kids. I was excited, I got Parrish Lee, the guy that converted from Muslim, the first time I met him, he gets to ride with me. We're going to go pick up kids. And, he kept saying, "One way." I thought, what are you talking about? He said, "One way," and then he shouted, "One way!" He said I was going the wrong way on a one-way Street. You know? I said, "Oh, my gosh, I've got to turn around." Because I was going the wrong way. You know? Warning lights. That wasn't a light, that was just somebody yelling at me telling me to turn around and make sure I'm not going the wrong way. But, thank God for brothers and sisters that tell us we're going the wrong way. Does that make sense?

And, then we have rescue vehicles with their flashing lights, they're coming through. It seems like it's good to see them when an ambulance comes through, or the police comes through, or the fire chief comes through, everybody gets out of the way. You know? They've got to go A to B. Most likely, you know the reason why I get out of the way? Because I want somebody to do it for me if I'm in that situation. You know? So, we've all got warning lights.

Then we have traffic lights. We've got red for stop, yellow for slow, or go faster, and green to go. But I have seen people go through red, go faster through yellow, and go slow through green. But, we know what the rules are, right? So, we've got all this traffic, all these lights, we've got the lighthouse that shines out to the ships out to sea. We've got flashlights that we can walk around at night and see things. But, keep in mind, all these are man-made, man-made. Man-made lights. Let's turn to John, chapter one, one through nine:

John 1:1-9 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was [What?] the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.*

And, my title of the sermon today is, "The True Light." God directs our paths every day with His true light. He told us His Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. We can look around this room, we can see our shadows casting on the floor from the lights above us; even though the lights are on, you can see your shadows. But, with God there's no darkness and no shadows at all. God sees everything. God sees every little detail about everything. You know? God sees all that we do, even things that no one else sees what we do. God light is pure, causing darkness to flee, and it shows the sin that needs to be covered by the blood of Christ. We make mistakes daily. We've just got to get it right. That pure light shows us when we're in error to make things right. A week ago, I stood in this pulpit crying my eyes out, because I needed to get things right. Brother Parrish asked me, "What do you want to pray for?" and I just burst into tears, because I didn't

know what to say. I just wanted to be right with God. You know? I didn't care what it took, I just wanted to be right with God. I'm a fifty-seven-year-old man, taught that men don't cry from my dad, and I bawled my eyes out. You know? Real men cry for Jesus. You know? We have to lean to God for His understanding. You know? Every day the real light comes to our path to guide us, helps us see the way, gives us direction, where we need to go, gives us warnings when we're going the wrong way, think the wrong way, or doing the wrong things. The light shows this, teaches us, directs us, speaks to us, and helps us day to day. I'm about to do a demonstration; I'm going to ask the ushers to shut off the lights for a few minutes. But, I know we've seen this demonstration before, but I'm into visual aids, to make the understanding. But, God instructed us that we are the light of the world. A city that sits on a hill cannot be hid. Let our light shine before all men and women. It's amazing that, Brother Andy and Parrish, that the children's church material, today, is "Let Your Light Shine Before All Men." I didn't even know that until they told me that this morning. You know? But, why? So they can see our good works and glorify your father which is in heaven. This is just one flashlight and, how bright is this flashlight? I'm going to put out the lights, I'm going to ask the ushers to shut off the lights please. We've seen this demonstration before. This is an LED light. It's pretty bright, right? Imagine all of us in this room having this light, right here, how bright it would be in here? Imagine that? It would be very bright. Keep in mind that all our lights are on from God. God lights us up all the time, every day. Now, you know that the sun generates its own light, and the moon is a reflection of that light, right? Aren't we a reflection of God? Amen. So, if I shine it towards the mirror, it makes the room a little bit more brighter. Right? God's got something for us to do. Could you put the lights back on, please? Thank you.

My closing scripture, here, before I turn over to Brother Malcolm, is in Revelation, chapter twenty-two, one through five. Revelation, twenty-two, one through five:

Revelation 22:1-2 *And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

We're supposed to yield fruit every month of our lives; not just harvest time, like the natural sense, but God wants to produce fruits in us, every day, every week, every month, every year, 24/7. And verse three:

Revelation 22:3 *And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 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.*

And, God is that true light. As I repeat John, one, nine:

John 1:9 *That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.*