

“I AM” THE light

John 8:12-20

Intro:

- John 7 shows much of today's problems with JC
 - Where did Jesus come from? (7:28)
 - Who sent Him? (28)
 - How can He show us Father? (29)
 - Where is Jesus now? (34,36) Among Gentiles?! (35)
 - Jesus did not fit their “expectations” ...
 - At the start of 8, they try again to confound His grace
 - But their “darkness” was not physical
 - And so Jesus offers us and them a better way
 - LIGHT!

I. Source in Him (12)

- I AM the light of the world (*cosmos*)
 - God called light (Ps 27:1; 1Ti 6:16; Ja 1:17)
 - Jesus is the light of all men (Jn 1:4,5,9; 3:19-21)
 - Jesus has called us His light reflected! (Mt 5:14-16)
 - Jesus in the Treasury; feast of Tabernacles (20)
 - 4 Huge candelabras = pillar of fire (Ex 13:21)
- That God is the light tells us:
 - He is the ONLY source
 - He is holy, pure, righteous
 - He exposes and defeats all darkness, reveals
 - He guides all who respond out of darkness into HIM

II. Call to Follow

- *akoloutheo*, to join as a disciple, attendant
 - This is present active... keep on doing it! Choice...
 - This is more than a few minutes with God...
 - Jesus called for followers, not converts!
- 2 things to remember:
 - We do not have light in ourselves, darkness!
 - Jesus is the only source of light, continual following
- NOTE: not just “light”, but light of Life!
 - Source of all life... Jews understood what this meant
 - Meaning, purpose, significance, all in Christ alone!

III. Challenge of Man (13-30)

- Many challenge Jesus' claim:
 - Just like others, all religion is the same...
 - If you knew the Father, you would know... (19)
 - Knowledge of the afterlife... *Gehenna* (22!)
 - Judging in/from the flesh, from below...
 - No witnesses? Jesus gives them five!
 - John the Baptist, the Father, His works, Scriptures, and Moses (see 32-37)
- When you lift me up, you will know I AM (28)
 - It is the Cross that makes it all clear...

Follow Thru:

- Many today walk in deep darkness; closed eyes
- They question His parentage and background...
- Jesus is still the LIGHT of LIFE...
- Isa 42:6 I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations,
7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison.