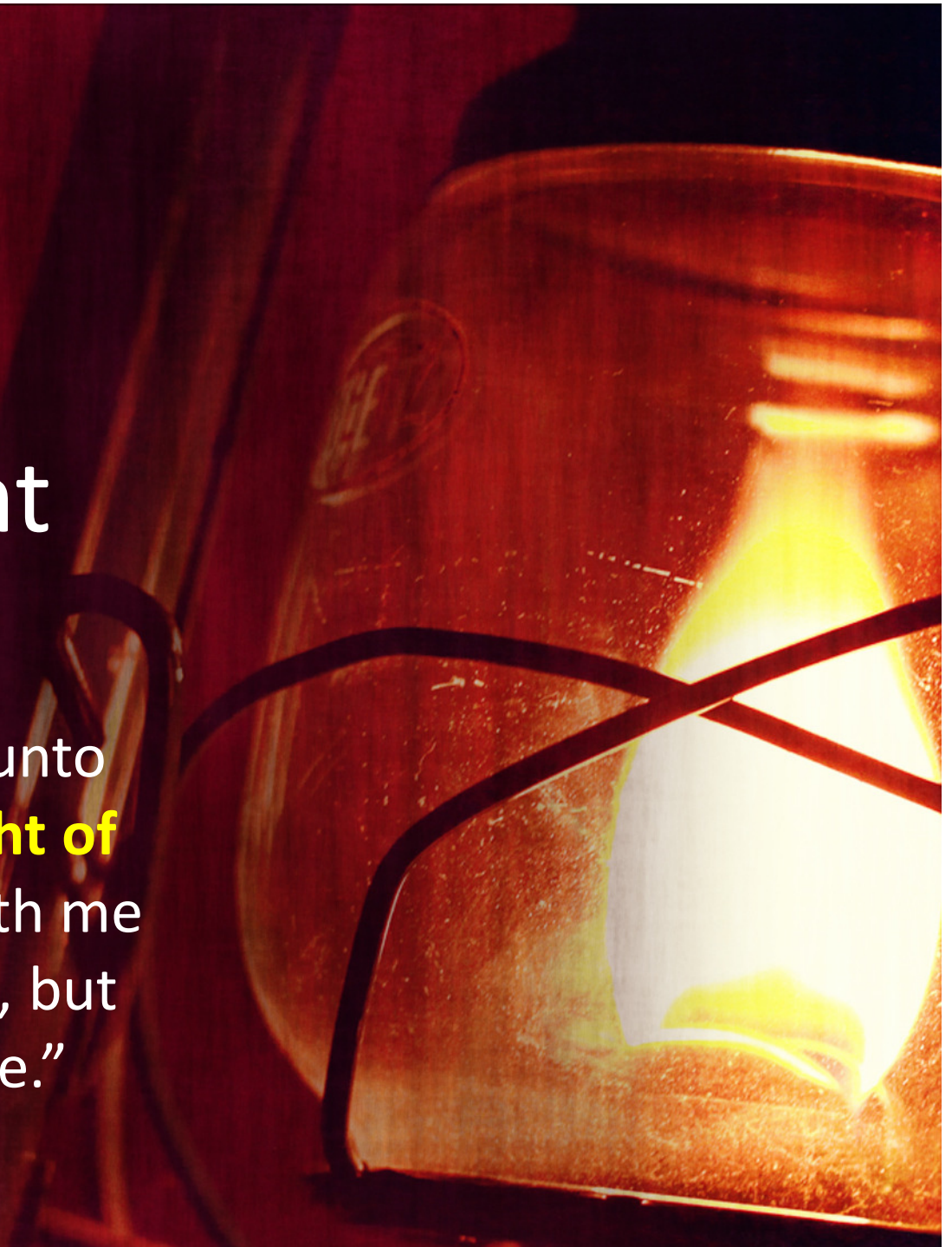


Carry the Light

Jn. 8:12

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”



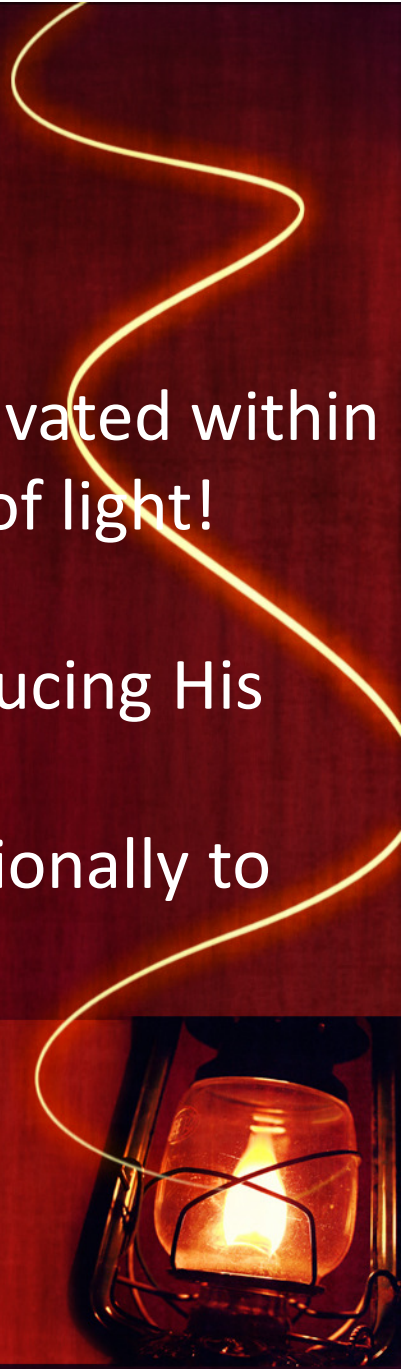
Our new theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.”

THE INTRINSIC POWER

The Lord is Light. If we know Him, His light is cultivated within us. We must be connected to Him as our source of light!

- The Word of God is our power source for producing His light in our lives.
- The strength of our light is dependent proportionally to our love for Christ.

THE ILLUMINATING PURPOSE



Mt. 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

- What does that mean? = light reveals truth needed for mankind's existence
- How do we do it? = we tap into the source by the Word of God, and loving Christ!
- Why should we do it? Because it is who we are (or who we claim to be.)

The Presentation of a Fact – “Ye **are** the light of the world...”

- We are identified, by the Lord, as “light.”
- We are identified WITH Him!
- As light, we accept the ramifications of our responsibility.



This morning's message is a great illustration of what we saw last week as we observe the Lord Jesus exhibiting what it means to be "the light of the world."

Jn. 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE LIGHT – "Then..."

A. The Exposure of Sin

Jn. 8:3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him **a woman taken in adultery**; and when they had set her in the midst,



- The men of the crowd, religious men, had already condemned this woman as a sinner.
- They made a public display of her sinfulness.
- They unwittingly made a public display of their unrighteousness.
- Most sanctimonious people always see others as sinners, but not themselves.



Jn. 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but **he that believeth not is condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that **light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, **lest his deeds should be reproved.**

21 But **he that doeth truth cometh to the light**, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

- Light exposes the reality of that upon which it shines.
- Light exposes mankind's actions and penetrates into the motives of the heart.



Luke 24:32 And they said one to another, **Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?**

Psa. 119:130 **The entrance of thy words giveth light;** it giveth understanding unto the simple.

B. The Expression of Salvation

1. The Condemnation of the Crowd

Jn. 8:3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him **a woman taken in adultery;** and when they had set her in the midst,



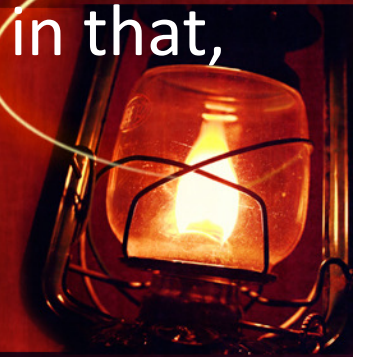
2. The Compassion of Christ

- The light exposes everyone.

Rom. 3:23 For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned**:

Rom. 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners**, Christ died for us.



- Some choose to see others' sins, and not their own.

Jn. 8:7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. ...**

- Jesus exposed the sin, but exhibited compassion.

Jn. 8:11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, **Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**

- Jesus did not condone sin, and admonished righteousness and showed mercy.



II. THE PERSON WHO IS THE LIGHT

Jn. 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

A. The Clarity Expressed – “...spake Jesus again unto them...”

B. The Characteristic Explained – “...saying, I am the light of the world...”

C. The Consequences Expected – “...he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”



- After showing mercy to the sinful woman, Jesus called Himself “the light of the world.”
- We cannot separate what He did from who He is.
- As His children, we are not to “walk in darkness.”
- As His children, we “have the light of life.”
- We are to uphold righteousness, with grace to offer forgiveness to the guilty.

Eph. 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**






Conclusion

Deut. 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, **to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart**, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

2 Chron. 7:14 If **my people**, which are called by my name, shall **humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways**; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.



Isa. 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, **with him also *that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.***

Jas. 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, **God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. ...**

10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord**, and he shall lift you up.