

THE POWER OF THE LIGHT

Introduction

- 1) **John 1:5** – “And the *light* shines in the darkness, and *the darkness did not comprehend it*”
 - a) “Comprehend” (KJV, NKJV) – while the contemporary meaning is “to understand,” the older, antiquated meaning of the Latin word *comprehendere* is “to seize or grasp, apprehend,” the physical laying hold of something
 - b) *Katalambano* (GK) = to aggressively take (*lambano*) down (*kata*); other English versions translate it as “overcome” (ESV, NIV, CSB), “grasp” (NASV), “apprehend” (ASV)
 - c) Word also used in John 8:3 (“caught”); 12:35 (“overtake”); 1 Cor. 9:24 (“obtain”); Phil. 3:13 (“apprehended”); 1 Thess. 5:4 (“overtake”); for mentally grasp/perceive, see Acts 4:13; 10:34
- 2) This verse speaks to the power of the light – it cannot be overcome by the darkness of evil
 - a) Physical light is power we can see – radiant energy we can perceive with our eyes, a fraction of the electromagnetic spectrum; without light there would be no sight or color to see – the blind cannot see the light; plants turn light into food, man turns it into energy
 - a) There is spiritual darkness in this world – immorality, hatred, murder, deceit, death, idolatry, paganism, etc.
 - b) Darkness is not simply the absence of light, but the power of evil (Lk. 22:53; Eph. 6:12)
- 3) Consider why the power of the light cannot be overcome by the power of the darkness

I) THE TRUE LIGHT IS FROM GOD

- A) **2 Corinthians 4:3-6** – God who provides physical light also provides spiritual light
- B) **John 1:1-4, 9; 8:12** – Jesus is the light that provides light to every man
- C) **1 John 1:5** – God is light and in Him is no darkness at all

II) GOD’S LIGHT ILLUMINATES TRUTH AND EXPOSES EVIL

- A) **John 3:19-21** – Light exposes evil deeds and illuminates godly works
- B) **Ephesians 5:8-11** – Light demonstrates what is acceptable to the Lord and condemns the unfruitful works of darkness

III) GOD’S LIGHT PROVIDES TRUE KNOWLEDGE AND GUIDANCE

- A) **Psalms 119:105** – Lamp to our feet and a light to our path
- B) **2 Corinthians 4:6** – The light of the gospel of Christ is the light of the knowledge of God
 - 1) **John 11:10** – Many dangers when walking in darkness

IV) GOD’S LIGHT IS OUR SALVATION FROM THE DARKNESS

- A) **Colossians 1:13-14** – Delivered from the power of darkness in the kingdom of Christ
- B) **1 Peter 2:9** – Called out of darkness into God’s marvelous light
 - 1) **1 Thessalonians 5:5** – We are sons of light and sons of the day
 - 2) **Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:15**

Conclusion

The **Light** of Christ and His word has come into the world to light the path to His kingdom of light and salvation (Matt. 4:16). The church of Christ will not be overcome by the power of death or evil (Matt. 16:18). There is power in the light of truth – hear and obey today!