

Daniel Perrin – Lesson 13: Epilogue: Knowing Jesus and His Word – Tuesday, December 24: Light and Darkness

1. Light and Darkness
 - a. So simple, we take it for granted
 - Light is a moment-by-moment reality WOVEN into our experience
 - Even a young child can understand
 - With light, you can see / Without light, you can't see
 - The ability to FIND (right tool / right path) — simplified by Light
 - The power to CHOOSE is enhanced by light (what color shirt...) — That's DISCERNMENT
 - The ability to appreciate beauty is intensified by light
 - Recognizing distance is reinforced by light
 - You need illumination to work – Light or darkness
 - You want to dispel fear – Light or darkness
 - All of these things I'm saying are spiritual object lessons – filled with meaning
 - Everything we see is light
 - Color – coming at you – Color is light
 - Hues / Brightness / Saturation / Contrast / Tint / & Shade —
 - Ways of DESCRIBING our sensitivity to Light
 - That color is an essential part of how we interpret the world
 - b. Darkness ISN'T even a thing.
 - There is Light (Light EXISTS) – and Darkness is just NO light
 - **1 Corinthians 2:6** – *However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.*
 - c. What a thorough illustration God has given us – integrated into every experience we have
2. The illustration of Light was built into this world from the first day of Creation
 - a. **Genesis 1:2-3** – *The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.*
 - First ingredient called forth by the voice of God – Light
 - In Genesis 1, God's Word speaks, and Light is seen
3. From the first chapter of John Jesus is introduced in these two ways
 - a. **1:1** – *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
 - b. LIGHT: **1:5** – *And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*
 - LIGHT you SEE / the WORD you HEAR
 - God reveals Himself in a way we can sense AND comprehend — so we can know Him.
4. Light is useless without eyes to see
 - a. **Matthew 6:22-23** – *"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!*
 - In John, Blindness is a theme
 - We can become Intentionally Blind by CLOSING OUR EYES to the light
 - Thinking we are illuminated, but stumbling in darkness

5. We can get all philosophical about Light and Darkness, but here is the Practical Take-Aways that a child can understand
- a. No one can change darkness to Light
 - There is no source of light INSIDE of me
 - b. God is the source of Light
 - **Daniel 2:22** – *He knows what is **in** the darkness, And **light dwells** with Him.*
 - **1 Timothy 6:16** – *...dwelling in unapproachable light...*
 - c. The Light is God's Word
 - **Psalm 119:105** – *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*
 - **Psalm 19:8** – *The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;*
 - **Proverbs 6:23** – *For the commandment is a lamp, and the law a light;*
 - d. The Light is Jesus – who embodies in flesh the truth of God's Word – the Word made Flesh
 - **Isaiah 9:2** – *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.*
 - **John 8:12** – *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*
 - **John 12:46** – *"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.*
 - **Matthew 17:2** – *He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.*
 - e. Are YOU taking Light for Granted — How to dwell in the Light?
 - PHYSICALLY – to get your biorhythms in a correct pattern – you need to place yourself in bright natural light as soon as you wake up – open your eyes to the light
 - SPIRITUALLY – Study the Bible and have sweet communion with Jesus FIRST THING IN THE MORNING
 - PHYSICALLY – Cave dwelling damages your eyes and health / Continue to expose yourself to natural light throughout the day
 - SPIRITUALLY – Keep a Bible with you / use your free time to read it and pray
 - Live in the Light
 - **Romans 13:12** – *Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.*