SERMON HANDOUT for July 9, 2023



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BRIGHT

Matthew 5:14-16 ESV Elder Alton R. Green

INTRODUCTION

Sermon on the Mount – Jesus was teaching to introduce the Kingdom of God!

- † Matthew 5:1-12 The "Beatitudes" describe who are blessed in the Kingdom of God.
- † Matthew 5:13 Jesus said, "we *are* the salt of the earth." We are to *influence* people for Jesus.
- * Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus was teaching his disciples what it meant to live as God intended, and the impact and influence they could have as Lights of the World.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LIGHT:

1) _____ IS VITAL FOR LIFE

- † Genesis 1:3-4 ESV
- † Psalm 119:105 ESV
- Light affects everything.

It permeates truth into every situation. It is true Love on earth.

"Praise God! The Light of the World is the Light of Heaven!" Only He can empower us to love the people He purposefully places in our lives well, and His love lights up the world. — Anne Graham-Lotz

• Light As A Metaphor

Oxford Learner's Dictionary - a metaphor is defined as "a word or phrase used to describe somebody/something else, in a way that is different from its normal use, in order to show that the two things have the same qualities and to make the description more powerful!"

• Light As Biblical Metaphor

In the Bible, light has always been symbolic of holiness, goodness, knowledge, wisdom, grace, hope, and God's revelation!

_____ IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD - John 1:4-5 ESV

- † John 8:12, the second of seven "I AM" declarations of Jesus!
- † John 9:5 ESV, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
- Guzik Commentary on John 8:12 and John 9:5: Great privilege carries with it great responsibility!
 "Jesus gives the Christian both a great compliment and a great responsibility when He says, We are the light of the world, because He claimed that title for Himself as He walked this earth."

3)

2)

_____ ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD - John 14:16-17 ESV

• Is Your Light Reflective of Jesus Christ?

- Can Your Family See Your Light?
- Can Your Friends and Neighbors See Your Light?
- Can Your Co-Workers See Your Light?
- In School, Can Your Teachers and Fellow Students See Your Light
- In Public Places like Shopping, Grocery Stores, Concert, etc.?

4) IT IS VITAL TO LET YOUR LIGHT ______ BRIGHT!!! - Matthew 5:14 ESV

- † Ephesians 5:8 ESV
- † 2 Corinthians 4:4-6 ESV
- 4a) DO NOT HIDE YOUR LIGHT Matthew 5:15; Romans 1:16-17 ESV; 1 Peter 2:9 ESV
- 4b) YOUR LIGHT IS VITAL IN THIS WORLD Matthew 5:16a; Ephesians 2:10; James 3:17 ESV
- 4c) YOUR LIGHT GIVES GOD GLORY Matthew 5:16b; Colossians 3:17 ESV

"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within." — Maya Angelou

"We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining- they just shine." — Dwight L. Moody

CONCLUSION

- This Little Light of Mine (Let Your Light Shine Bright!)
- Let Us Continue to Walk in the Light and Understand
- We Are the Light
- We Cannot Hide the Light
- Our Light Must Shine in this World
- Always Giving God the Glory