

## Walking in the Light; 1 John 1:5-10

- I. Walking
  - a. A mode of transportation to move from one point to another
  - b. There are even walking races
  - c. To pursue a course of action or way of life: conduct oneself: behave <sup>1</sup>
  - d. To conduct one's life, *comport oneself, behave, live* as habit of conduct <sup>2</sup>
  - e. A settled, practiced, lifestyle
  - f. God wants us to conduct ourselves, behave, live as a habit in a certain way – in the light
- II. In the Light
  - a. 1 John 1:5 (ESV); This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
  - b. Light is the element and sphere of the divine <sup>3</sup> – God is light
    - i. Jesus says, “I am the light of the world” in John 8:12
    - ii. Some say He is referring to the great lamp lit during the feast of tabernacles
    - iii. Some say He is referring to the morning sun that was rising while He was speaking
    - iv. Isaiah 42:6 (ESV); “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,
    - v. When Jesus was presented in the temple according to the Law (He would have been 41 days old) there was a man named Simeon there
    - vi. God promised him he would see the Messiah, the consolation of Israel, before he died
    - vii. Simeon alluded to Isaiah 42:6 as he held Jesus
    - viii. Luke 2:32 (ESV); a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”
  - c. The element in which the redeemed person lives <sup>4</sup>
    - i. Acts 26:14–18 (ESV); <sup>14</sup> And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ <sup>15</sup> And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup> But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, <sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am

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<sup>1</sup> Inc Merriam-Webster, [Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary](#). (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

<sup>2</sup> William Arndt et al., [A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature](#) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 803.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, 1072.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, 1073.

sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

- ii. We are ‘light livers’ not ‘darkness dwellers’
- iii. We make a habit of living in the light of God, according to His purpose, not our own – a settled, practiced, lifestyle

- d. Several of my friends used to say, “there are only two things open at midnight (*darkness*); hospitals and jail cells, and you don’t want to be in either one!”
- e. We should be walking in the light

### III. Fellowship

- a. 1 John 1:6–7 (ESV); <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- b. close association, *communion*, *close relationship* (hence a favorite expression for the marital relationship as the most intimate between human beings <sup>5</sup>
  - i. 1 Corinthians 1:9 (ESV); God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - ii. 1 Corinthians 10:16 (NASB95); Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?
  - iii. 1 John 1:1–3 (ESV); <sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- c. Fellowship is much more than some social gathering – it is a participation, a sharing in each other’s lives (as we walk in the light) – just as we share in the life of Jesus
- d. Just as we are living in the element of the divine (light), we share that divinity (Jesus) with each other – we encourage, admonish, spur each other on to love and good deed (Hebrews 10:24)
- e. The Hebrew writer continues on to say, “not neglecting to meet together” – to fellowship with one another, to share, participate in the life of Jesus
- f. Fellowship is first vertical (between us and God) and then horizontal (between each other)
- g. Those who have fellowship with God have fellowship with one another – we don’t get a say in the matter!

### IV. Cleansed

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 552.

- a. 1 John 1:8–10 (ESV); <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
- b. We have all sinned, everyone – there are none righteous, no, not one (Romans 3:10)
- c. We cannot forget where we came from, nor who we are (redeemed, living in the very presence of God)
- d. We cannot forget our cleansing, “how can we who died to sin still live in it” (Romans 6:2)
- e. We must agree with God (confess) when it comes to sin – we don’t get to make up our own, or change what God has already proclaimed
- f. Walking in the light is the settled, practiced, lifestyle of living in the presence of God, and sharing our lives others who are living in the presence of God
- g. Are you walking in the light?