

The Spark of Life

Text: John 1:1-13 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended **not** it (meaning: *understood or perceived*) it not. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹²But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³**Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Note: BORN AGAIN NOT BY NATURAL MEANS BUT BY THE SPARK OF GOD**

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ²And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

I John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Introduction: Recently, I preached on **GOD IS LIGHT** proclaiming God's Nature and God's Attribute that "**God is Light and in him there is no darkness, at all.**" The sermon today endeavors to explore the reality of the "**Light and Life God has given to US through Jesus Christ.**"

Notice I didn't say "A" SPARK OF LIFE—but "THE" SPARK OF LIFE

WHAT IS A SPARK?

OXFORD Dictionary--a small fiery particle thrown off from a fire, alight in ashes, or produced by striking together two hard surfaces such as stone or metal. (*GOD & the Fallen Sin Hardened Soul of MAN*)

COLLIN AMERICAN Dictionary--A spark is a tiny bright piece of burning material that flies up from something that is burning.

I. Our God is the sole Manufacture and Source of Eternal Life—THERE IS NO OTHER!!!

Notice AGAIN our text—

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ²And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. **And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.**

John 1:12-13 ¹²But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³**Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Note: BORN AGAIN NOT BY NATURAL MEANS BUT BY THE SPARK OF GOD**

I John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

II. The Touch of God has Power like no other Touch!

- World Creating Power
- Heaven(s) Creating Power **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the **heaven** and the earth
Heaven: **God's Home** ----- and ----- the heavens--**the cosmos or universe**
- Healing Power (as demonstrated by the Touch of Jesus to the sick and the dead)
- Spiritual Eternal Life Power: **John 1:12** But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
Also, I John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. **THE SPARK OF GOD'S ETERNAL LIFE**

BEING BORN AGAIN IS NEW LIFE IMPARTED FROM GOD INTO THE SOUL OF THE BELIEVER!!!

THE SPARK or touch OF GOD’S LIFE INTO THE HEART OF MAN Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, *and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*

III. The Effect of the Life of Jesus Christ Today

a. The effect of Christ in America

• Churches in America

- MONEY-10 million Americans donate about \$50 billion each year to churches through tithing (ref. <https://nonprofitssource.com>)
- 356,000 churches in America (ref. 2020 US Census)
- 15,600,000 (minimum) sermons preached per year (if one sermon preached each week in each church)
- 2400 Christian Radio Stations (ref. Wikipedia- Christian Broadcasting)
- 100 Christian TV Stations (ref. Wikipedia- Christian Broadcasting)

• Missions in America

- 9044 missionaries currently working from the US. (ref. www.zippia.com)
- \$32 billion given from America to World Missions each year (ref. globalfrontiermissions.org)

• Bibles in America (ref. Barna Group-American Society)

- 3.5 million Bibles owned by Americans in the USA
- 88% of Americans own a Bible
- 24% own 6 or more Bibles
- 59% who have no faith or are atheist own a Bible
- 80% of Americans identify the Bible as sacred literature- only 8% believe the Koran to be sacred
- 61% wish they read the Bible more often

b. The effect of Christ in the World

• Total number of churches in the World

- 8 to 16 million churches (ref. thecompletepilgrim.com)
- 37 million churches (ref. quora.com)

• World Missionary total = 400,000 missionaries in the world (ref. radical.net)

• Bibles in the World = 5 to 7 billion--- 80 million printed each year (ref. Guinness World Records)

IV. *Why build so many churches? Why have so many ministers preaching so many sermons? Why have so many radio and tv stations? Why send missionaries all over the world? Why freely give and donate billions of dollars each year? Why print and own so many Bibles?*

Surprisingly, the answers to these questions are quite simple -- CHRIST HAS TOUCHED OUR HEART AND NOW, WE HAVE A DEEP DESIRE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. IT IS GOD’S WILL AND PLAN—To SPREAD THE GOSPEL TO ALL THE WORLD SO THAT THEY MAY BE SAVED, UNDERSTAND GOD’S PLAN FOR THEIR LIVES, AND RECEIVE COMFORT AND HOPE!
2. HONOR AND WORSHIP JESUS CHRIST—built and dedicated places to worship Him!
3. ESTABLISH PLACES OF REFUGE AND SAFETY WHERE BELIEVES CAN MEET AND UNITE TO FACE A FALLEN WORLD AND ITS EVIL FORCE! -- TO MEET AND UNITE IN PRAYER!
4. DISCIPLESHIP—TO TRAIN BIBLICALLY SOUND DISCIPLES AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS

V. Why Does the Spark of God’s Life go out in some followers of Christ?

• The Word received is not mixed with faith in some—Joshua/Caleb and the 10 spies

Hebrews 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

- **To Some People — The way or the cost is just too great for them—** *Rich Young Ruler*
Matthew 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
- **Some do not allow themselves to become rooted and disciplined--**
Mathew 13:20-21 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
- **To Some the pleasure of sin for a season is too strong--**
Matthew 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.
- **Some People Fall Victim to the Trap of Religion--**
Matthew 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
Matthew 24-4-5: And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
⁵For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

**** **BUT Remember: Just because some fall away doesn't mean we must fall away too!** ****

God grants us a Free Will to CHOOSE—ITS UP TO US

Matthew 24:11 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

IV. Why do many others TOTALLY reject God's Offer and Go to Hell Anyway-- in Spite of all that God has been done?

Matthew 13:19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

II Corinthians 4:3-4 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

V. CLOSING: GOD COMMANDS HIS LIGHT TO SHINE IN AND THROUGH US!

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Before CHRIST—The WORLD was SPIRITUALLY VOID—SPIRITUAL DARKNESS RULED UPON THE FACE OF THE WORLD—and then, THE HOLY SPIRIT (THROUGH CHRIST) MOVED UPON THE FACE OF THE DARKNESS AND BROUGHT NEW SPIRITUAL LIFE TO THIS BARREN WORLD!!

I John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

HIS LIGHT IN & TRHOUGH US IS A TESTIMONY TO THE WORLD THAT HE IS ALIVE!!

II Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.