# The Book of I John Lesson 4

1 John 1:5-7

“God Is Light”

Introduction: The greater evil is to think of God less than He has revealed Himself. People live wrong before God because they think wrong about God. You do NOT think wrong and live right. You cannot think wrong about God and live right. If a person has misguided beliefs about His creator, then He will inevitably live a life that is not pleasing to his Creator. Remember, John did not just write this letter because he had nothing better to do. He is writing in response to Gnostic thoughts and teachings that were having negative effects on churches. The issue of the deity of Christ is foundational to the Christian faith, if you do not have a true understanding of what this means then it will affect the way you live your life before God.

John is trying to reinforce in the minds of believers the truth about God. (God’s very nature is being attacked by these Gnostics.)

**I. God is Light**

A. Those receiving this letter were saved out of the Greek Mythological Religion.

1. They knew the myths of the Greek culture.

a. Under the influence of the Greek religion.

b. Exposed to the myths of the Greek gods

2. The gods of the Greek mythological religion were a mess.

a. They were perverts with twisted thinking.

b. They were capable of lying, cheating, immorality.

c. They were spiteful and quarrelsome with one another.

3. These people had been taught these myths from their birth.

a. They were now having their mind troubled and confused.

b. They were thinking maybe the God who is God may be like the gods who are not.

B. God is Light and in Him is NO darkness AT ALL.

1. Not even the capacity to be darkness.

2. No darkness, not any.

C. This is not a metaphorical statement.

1. Sometimes in His Word, God reveals Himself as a metaphor.

a. This is not one of those instances.

b. God is Love, God is Spirit… God is LIGHT!

2. God’s kingdom is a Kingdom of Light.

1) In the beginning, darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God moved and God said, “Let there be light.”

2) In the book of Revelation, you read that the city had no need of the sun nor the moon, for the glory of God did light it and the Lamb is the Light.

3) In the Bible, we are called Children of Light

4) It is stated, we were sometimes in darkness, but now are we Light in the Lord.

5) Scripture tells us that we who are believers and God’s children are the Light of the World.

D. Nothing is purer than Light.

1. John’s primary purpose of this statement is to express God’s purity, holiness and righteousness.

a. Pure without any defilement.

b. Holy without any admixture of evil.

2. John is reminding us that we know we are sinners (with defilement, pollution, evil).

**II. Darkness and Light Do Not Mix.**

A. There is a difference between engaging in sin during our life and walking in darkness.

1. Walking in darkness

a. A current movement; a persistent direction

b. Not going through life, and yield to a temptation or stumble in temptation.

c. Referring to a lifestyle.

1) Struggling Christian confessing sin at the altar

2) A person whose whole lifestyle is darkness

2. They were being told that their lifestyle does not affect their fellowship with God.

a. John says that is not true it does affect.

b. Outside of God is darkness.

3. If you claim to walk in fellowship with Him, then you are claiming to walk in the Light.

a. If, while you are claiming to walk in the Light, you are living a lifestyle that is in darkness then you are not in fellowship with God.

b. We deal with the gullibility of Christians just like John did.

1) Believe anyone who speaks the name of Jesus

2) Celebrities give God glory for their talent, but don’t glorify God with their talent

B. You cannot walk in the light and still be walking in darkness.

1. You cannot put one foot on land and one foot on the ship

a. You can’t go both ways.

b. You must make up your mind.

2. In order to be in fellowship with God, we must walk in the light as He is in the light.

a. We are not interested in what is said, we are interested in the lifestyle

b. If the lifestyle is darkness, there is no fellowship with God.

3. Darkness has NO fellowship with light.

a. We cannot help a person have fellowship with God if we lead them to believe that you can mix light and darkness and everything still be right with God.

b. Christians are NOT to justify people walking in darkness.

c. A Christian’s life (in your day to day conduct) is to reprove the unfruitful works of darkness.

**Conclusion**: Christians who live a lifestyle of darkness usually are justifying that sinful lifestyle because they saw a professing Christian commit a sin. But, to engage in a sin is different than walking in a lifestyle of darkness. (verse 7) The blood cleanses us from all sin.

In the process of walking of Light, there a sin here or there…. a tendency of the flesh, anger that gets out of hand, a lack of the control of the Spirit.

And you bring that sin before God to the altar then the blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son cleanses you from that sin…

That is entirely different a person saying, “this is the way I live, and I will live this lifestyle even if it won’t allow me to be in fellowship with God!”

My child cannot do anything to change the fact that they are my child, but there are some things that can affect our fellowship.

John is helping us to understand that we have fellowship with a pure and Holy God who is Light, but you cannot have fellowship Him with a lifestyle of darkness.

Are you a child of God?

If so, are you in fellowship with Him?