

Lesson 38

Pictures of Jesus

The Light of the World



The rays of light push darkness away. Jesus, the Light of the World, pushes away the darkness of sin and eternal punishment and gives us salvation, light and joy.

John 8:12 | “When Jesus spoke again to the people he said, *‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’*”

John 1:4 | “In him (*Jesus*) was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not understood it.”

Matthew 4:16 | “The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”

Darkness is the enemy of light. When light shines darkness disappears. Darkness is sin and eternal punishment. Light is the grace of God in the forgiveness of sins earned by Jesus.

In the first Bible passage above, Jesus tells us He is the Light of the World. That is a great picture name for Jesus. Imagine a dark night and you are walking home from a friend's house. It is scary and you might fall over something you cannot see. That is what sin is like. Jesus is like the light of day. When you walk in the light of day, you are not afraid and you will not fall over unseen things. Faith in Jesus is what lets us walk through life in the light rather than in darkness.

The second Bible passage above shows how Jesus is the salvation of everyone who believes in Him. Faith in Jesus gives us eternal life. Those who will not believe in Jesus still live in darkness and cannot understand the gift of forgiveness of sins that Jesus gives to everyone.

In the last Bible passage above, we see a beautiful picture of Jesus. "People living in darkness" means: people living under the guilt of their sins. Jesus died on the cross to earn the

forgiveness for our sins. This was like a great light shining on the world.

In the last Bible passage there is another wonderful picture of Jesus' love. Sinners saw the light which was Jesus and His message of salvation for the first time. Before Jesus, there was God's promise of a Savior. Jesus is what that promise was all about. Like the sun rising in the morning, Jesus and the glory of salvation dawned on all people. Just like the sunrise, the light begins to show and then it gets brighter and brighter until a bright and glorious day begins. The light (Jesus' love) reaches out into every dark corner to shine upon sinners everywhere with the promise of salvation.

Is it not better to be in the light than in the darkness?

PRAYER TIME

We thank you Jesus for being the light in our dark and scary world. We thank You for filling our lives with Your love. We thank You for taking away all of our sins and the fear of eternal punishment for those sins. Amen