

“Opposites Day: Day 1”

A Walk Through the Old Testament

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“God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.” Genesis 1:3-4

It’s opposites day: the Bible begins with of one of the primary opposites in all Creation: Light and Darkness

- **There’s this on Day #1...**

*“God said, ‘**Let there be light**,’ and there was light ...”* Genesis 1:4-5

- **And there’s this on Day #4 ...**

*“God made the two great lights—the **greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night**—and the stars ... and to separate the light from the darkness ...”* Gen 1:14-19

- **What is Genesis 1:3-4 talking about?**

Light: surely one of the Attributes of God.

*“**I am the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”* John 8:12.

- **The Light of Christ is more real than the light of the sun.**

*“(The new Jerusalem) ... has **no need of sun or moon** to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb ... and there will be no night there.”* Rev. 21:23-25.

- **Turning away from Darkness to Light is the starting point for Paul:** *“I am sending you ... so that they may **turn from darkness to light** ...”* Acts 26:17.
- **The dispelling of Darkness by the Light of Christ in the Apostles’ preaching:** *“... **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.”* 1 John 1:5
- **The Light of Christ: the Christian’s Identity, the Mark, the Experience :** *“... you are not in darkness, brothers ... **you are all children of light**”* 1 Thess 5:4.

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What are the ways that the Light of Christ overcomes Darkness in the Children of Light?

1. **God Promises Light Over Darkness:** *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”* John 1:4-5
 - **Our situation, mood, circumstances**
 - *“... we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom ...”* Isaiah 59:9-10
 - **... But God’s promise to His people:**
 - *“I will turn the darkness before them into light ... I do not forsake them.”* Isaiah 42:16
 - **Remember, God’s promise:** *“... the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.”* 1 John 2:8

2. **The Light exposes the Darkness**
 - **Collect for Purity, BCP:** *“Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hid ...”*
 - **Psalm 139** *“... If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night’, even the darkness is not dark to you”*

3. **The Light Humbles the One on whom the Light shines.**
 - *“You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness.”* 2 Sam 22:28-29
 - **A popular verse:** *“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways ...”* 2 Chronicles 7:14.

4. **The Light of Christ Commands Me to Repent & Abide in the Light**
 - *“The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”* Matt 4:16
 - **There’s only one remedy:**
 - *“Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true ...”* Ephesians 5:8-9.
 - *“Jesus said to them, ‘The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you ...’”* John 12:35, 36