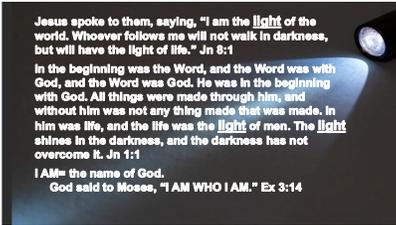


# I AM the Light-

## I. Introduction-



1

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I AM the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Jn 8:1

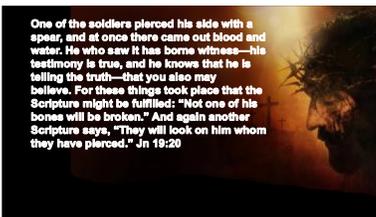
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Jn 1:1

I AM= the name of God given in Exodus 3:14

I AM is claim to be deity

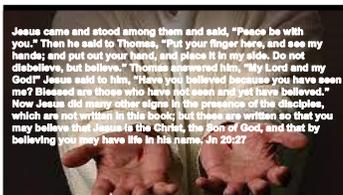
Light= something that makes vision possible

## B. But today is also about darkness-



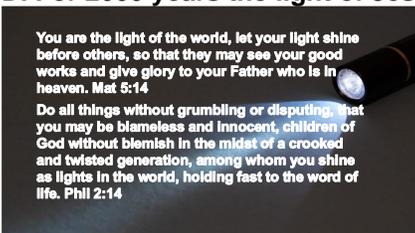
One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced." Jn 19:20

## C. Jesus defeated the darkness-



Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. Jn 20:27

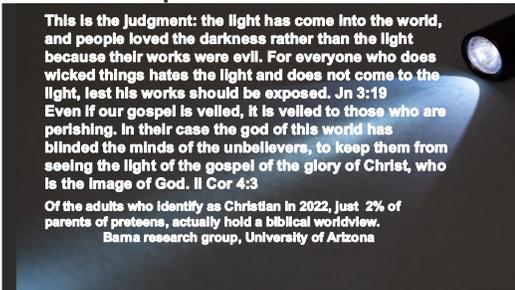
## D. For 2000 years the light of Jesus has shined into our world through His disciples



You are the light of the world, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Mat 5:14

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Phil 2:14

## E. There is spiritual darkness in the world today-



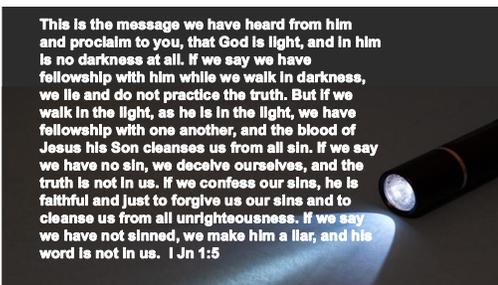
2

This is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. Jn 3:19

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. II Cor 4:3

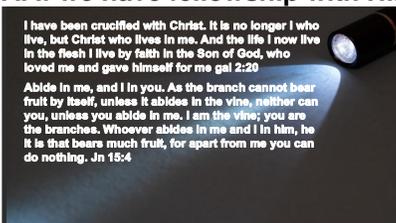
Of the adults who identify as Christian in 2022, just 2% of parents of preteens, actually hold a biblical worldview.  
Barna research group, University of Arizona

## II. Walk in the light as Jesus is in the light-



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. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. I Jn 1:5

### A. If we have fellowship with Him

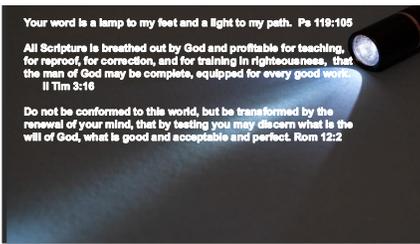


I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me gal 2:20

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. Jn 15:4

### B. If we walk in the truth of His word-

1. If we walk in the light of His word-

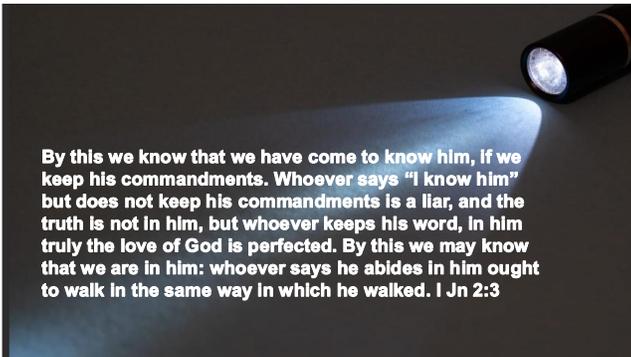


Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Ps 119:105

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. II Tim 3:16

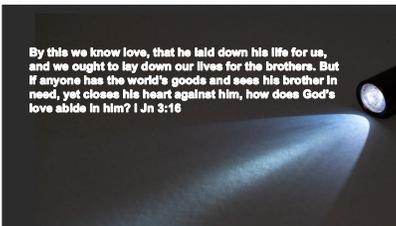
Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Rom 12:2

2. If we walk like Jesus walked-



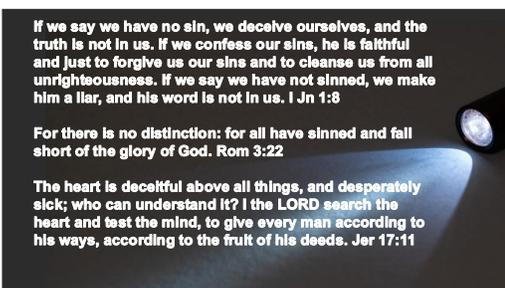
By this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. I Jn 2:3

3. If we serve others as Jesus serves us-



By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? I Jn 3:16

C. If we acknowledge our sins-



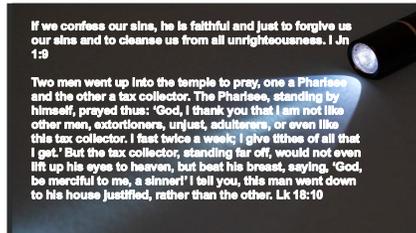
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. I Jn 1:8

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Rom 3:22

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? I the LORD search the heart

and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds. Jer 17:11

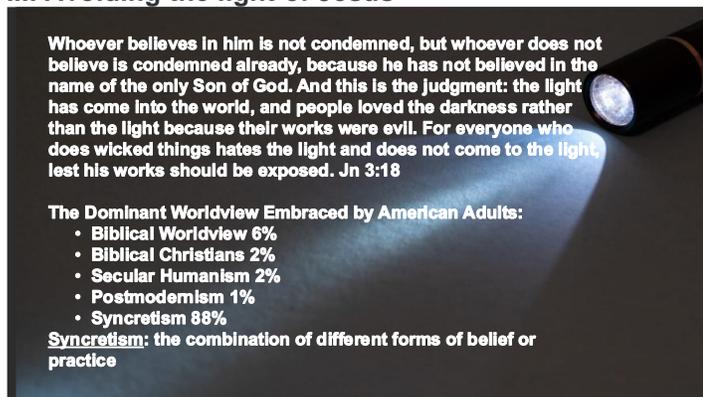
## B. If we confess our sins-



4

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 Jn 1:9  
Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. Lk 18:10

## III. Avoiding the light of Jesus-



Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. Jn 3:18

The Dominant Worldview Embraced by American Adults:

- Biblical Worldview 6%
- Biblical Christians 2%
- Secular Humanism 2%
- Postmodernism 1%
- Syncretism 88%

**Syncretism:** the combination of different forms of belief or practice

## A. Avoid the evidence for God-

1. The scientific evidence for creation vs. evolution  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajqH4y8G0MI>
2. Evidence for the inspiration of the bible- handout
3. Evidence for Jesus- the death of the disciples
4. The evidence for the nature of man- Read the news or look at our thoughts and actions

## A. Avoid the bible-

The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall

away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. Lk 8:11

## **B. Avoid fellowship and church-**

if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another. I Jn 1:6

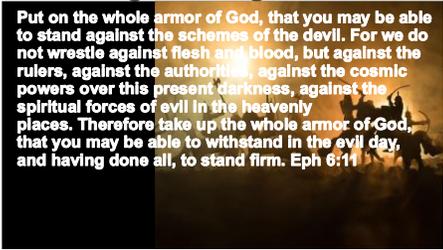
And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Heb 10:24

5

## **B. Avoid the truth-**

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. II Tim 4:3

## **IV. Coming to the light-**



Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Eph 6:11

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## **A. Seek truth with all our hearts-**

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD. Jer 29:11

I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. Prov 8:17

Preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct. I Pet 1:13

## **Accept no compromise-**

'I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! 16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. Rev 3:15

You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. Gal 5:7

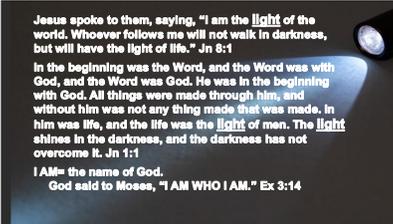
## **C. Know the real Jesus-**

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. Mat 7:21

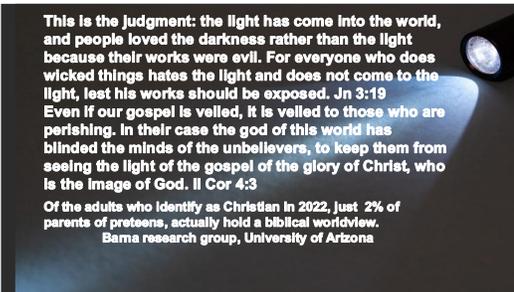
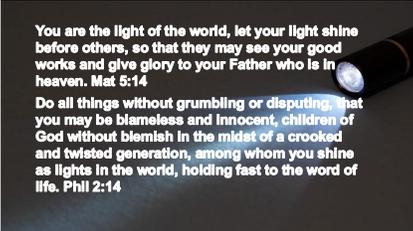
I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ. Phil 3:8

## **V. Summary and application-**

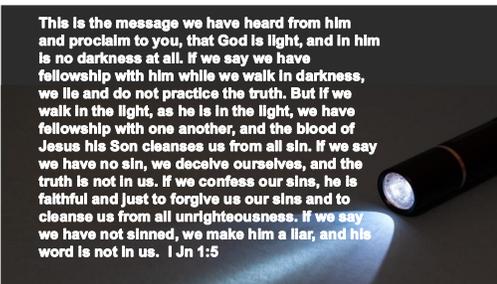
### **A. Light has come into the world-**



## B. Be the light-



## C.



The big "ifs"

### A. If we have fellowship with Him

Christ lives in me- abide in Him

### B. If we walk in the truth of His word-

1. If we walk in the light of His word-
2. If we walk like Jesus walked-
3. If we serve others as Jesus serves us-

### C. If we acknowledge our sins-

### B. If we confess our sins-

Self-righteous, or humble sinner

Which are we?

### III. Avoiding the light of Jesus-

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. Jn 3:18

#### A. Avoid the evidence for God-

##### A. Avoid the bible-

Read, study, meditate and abide in God's word- not a time, knowledge issue- it is a **Love issue**  
**Love for Jesus-**

7

##### B. Avoid fellowship and church- If we can help=

##### B. Avoid the truth-

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. II Tim 4:3  
Fox news, talk shows, late night

### IV. Coming to the light- expect a spiritual battle

Get our armor on

#### A. Seek truth with all our hearts-

#### B. Seek holiness-

**Accept no compromise-**

#### C. Know the real Jesus-

then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. Mat 7:21