

The Father of Lights Part-5

John 1:1-5 TPT Our “train” is leaving the station. Get onboard by faith!

God is the Creator and unchanging Source of all goodness Who changes not. **James 1:17 TPT** says, “*Whatever is good and perfect is **a gift coming down to us** from God our Father, Who created all the **lights** in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. 18. He chose to give birth to us by giving us His true word. And we, out of all creation, became His prized possession (NKJV: “...that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”).*” **SFLB**: “God’s greatest gift to us is regeneration. By the exercise of **His own will He brought us forth** into new life. His instrument was **the word of truth**, which Paul identifies as “*the gospel of ...salvation* (Eph. 1:13). God’s purpose was to present believers as **a kind of firstfruits**, an OT allusion to the first part of the crop, which was a pledge of a greater harvest to come. As such, James and the other Christians of his generation were a foretaste of a great host of believers to come. The phrase **of His creatures** may indicate that believers are the first stage of the ultimate redemption of all creation, which is now under the divine curse since the Fall.” Keep this in mind as we come to Scriptures today that speak of living holy lives, for we the redeemed who are to live lives liberated from sin’s power.

“Two Fathers – Choose the Right One”

We’re either children of the Father of lights or the father of lies!

John 8:37-44 NKJV says they’re either the source of truth or lies. **V. 42 NKJV** *Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.”* Do you love God? If so,

then love Who God loves - Jesus! **Jesus was not self-directed**, nor should we be as well. Father sent Him & us to do His will.

V. 43 *“Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.”*

The Jews couldn't stand to listen to Stephen speak truth either! So they stoned him to death. Jesus came speaking truth & they crucified Him. They were not able to listen to His word. Do you have trouble listening to Jesus' words? His truth will bring light into darkness and convict of sin. Listen to Him & repent – let His light shine & watch your love for Father God grow inside you! His Holy Spirit produces only what's good & right & true.

“Living in the Light”

Children are born to imitate others. That's how they learn to walk, speak, love, etc. So should we be imitators of our Creator.

Eph. 5:1-18 TPT *“Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. 2. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered Himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.*

“3. Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. 4. Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes – these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. 5. You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ & of God. For a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.

*“6. Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey Him. 7. Don't participate in the things these people do. 8. For once you were full of darkness, **but now you have light from the Lord** (NKJV: “For you were once darkness, but **now you are light in the Lord**”). So live as people of light! 9. For this **light** (NKJV “**Spirit**”) within you produces only what is good and right and true.”*

Light begets light! The Holy Spirit within us produces only what is good and right and true! Therefore, listen to Paul's reasoning in the following verses that line up with producing goodness, righteousness & truth. Are we allowing Him to do this in and through us? If a mixture, we're to repent & change our actions.

*"10. Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. 11. Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. 12. It is shameful even talk about the things ungodly people do in secret (i.e. soap operas; gossip). 13. But their evil intentions will be exposed when the **light** shines on them, 14. for the **light** makes everything visible. This is why it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you **light**." The more you desire to live in the Light, the freer you become, and the more God's Spirit moves in your life to bring Him glory!*

"Living by the Power of the Spirit"

*"15. So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. 16. Make the most of every **opportunity*** in these evil days. [NKJV **"*Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."**] 17. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. 18. Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, 19. singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among your-selves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. 20. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

This masterpiece section of Ephesians ends with an admonition for us to *"continuously be being filled with the Holy Spirit"*. Without Him, we are left to our own devices, and we will surely return to works of righteousness to try to maintain our salvation instead of loving God with our whole heart, soul, mind &

strength. The Spirit of the Lord is the One who is to animate us, bring forth fruit for God – what's good & right & true = **Love!**

“Love Fulfills God's Requirements”

Rom. 13:10-12 TPT *“Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law. 11. And this is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12. The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and **put on the shining armor of right living** (NKJV: “put on the armor of light”). Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. 14. Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.”*

Right living is light to the world. Unbelievers will not appreciate it - they might even persecute it, but it's still right in God's eyes!