

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved dress, is kneeling on a stone slab. She has her hands clasped in prayer and is looking down. To her right stands a large, simple wooden cross. The scene is set in a landscape of rolling hills under a bright, low sun, creating a golden glow and long shadows. A large tree is on the left, and several smaller trees are scattered across the hills. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

The Light of the World
John 8:12

Light of the World

- **John 8:12** - ¹² Again 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.”

In the Beginning

- **John 1:1-5** - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ **In him was life, and the life was the light of men.** ⁵ **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

The Light of God's Word

- **Isaiah 49:6** - I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' ”
- **Psalms 119:105** - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- **Psalms 43:3** - Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

The Right Light

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

You Are the Light of the World

- **Matthew 5:14-16** - ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

The Light of Deception

- **2 Corinthians 11:14-15** - ¹⁴ And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵ So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

No Other Gospel

- **Galatians 1:6-9** - ⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

3 Rules for Discerning the Light – Truth or False Teaching?

1. Will This Honor and Glorify God and Jesus?
2. Does This Affirm and Comply With the Totality of the Holy Scriptures?
3. Does This Strengthen and Edify the Church/Body of Christ?



"You *have* to let me in! — I belonged to a *megachurch*!"

Ambassadors for Christ – Send the Light

- **Acts 13:47** - ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.””
- **2 Corinthians 5:20** - Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

The Example of John the Baptist – Sending the Light

- **John 1:6-8** - ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The Example of the Apostles – Light Before the Sanhedrin

- **Acts 5:27-32** - ²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Worthy to Suffer Dishonor for the Name

- **Acts 5:41-42** - ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

The Example of Paul – Light in Front of King Agrippa and Festus

- **Acts 26:27-28** - ²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.” ²⁸ And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?” ²⁹ And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.”

Jesus – The Light

- **John 12:46** - ⁴⁶ I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.



“You’ve got a book and you can take that book and conquer the world, but you can’t do it with it under your arm. You’ve got to have it in your heart.”

Marshall Keeble

No Fellowship With Darkness

- **Ephesians 5:11-13** - ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

Judgment – Light Has Come into the World

- **John 3:19-21** - ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

Send the Light – Save the Lost

- **James 5:19-20** - ¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.