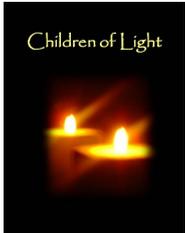


## CHRISTIANS ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



Note this message to Christians, ***“ye were sometimes darkness; but now light in the LORD: walk as the children of light.”*** (Ephesians 5:8). Christians are not in the light because they work or walk; but because they are in the LORD. Because they are in the light and in the LORD, they should walk and behave as children of light.

The all-important word, in becoming a Christian, or in living the Christian life is ‘LET’. Let God save you in His way. Then let God use you to His glory. God says to Christians, ***“ye are not your own. Ye are bought with a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”*** (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Let us see how Christians get into the LORD and in the light, ***“Giving thanks unto the Father, Who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light, Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in Whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”*** (Colossians 1:12-14).

Some most important and needful instructions are given to Christians in 1 Peter 2:9-12 for Christian living and behavior, ***“that ye should show forth the praises of Him Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”, “that they (sinners) by your good works, which they shall behold, may glorify God in the day of visitation.”***

Another servant of the LORD, James, said, ***“I will show you my Faith by my works.”*** (James 2:18).

The LORD tells Christians that they are an epistle of Christ, known and read of all men. (2 Corinthians 3:2-3). In the next chapter, 2 Corinthians 4:6-7, we read concerning Christians, **“Go d, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness (Genesis 1:3), hath shined in our hearts, to give the ‘LIGHT’ of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”**

(2 Corinthians 4:6). This verse takes us back to the words of Christ when He was here on earth,

**“Ye are the light of the world.” “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Which is in heaven.”**

(Matthew 5:14-16).

The LORD Jesus Christ called Himself the ‘LIGHT’ of the world; and said that His followers would have in them the light of life. (John 8:12). Concerning Christ, we read in 1 Timothy 6:16, **“Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light, which no man can approach unto, to Whom be honour and power everlasting.”**

Similar truth is recorded in John 1:4-5 and John 1:9:

**“in Him (Christ) was life: and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness: and the darkness comprehended it not.” “That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”**

Then note the wonderful statement that follows, in John 1:10...

**“Christ was in the world, and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not.”**

Then John 1:29, Christ is the Lamb of God Who beareth away the sin of the world.

In Revelation 4:10-11 we read why God’s servants in heaven say to Christ, **“Thou art worthy, O LORD, to receive glory and honour and power.”**

Why?

**“For Thou halt created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.”**

This confirms Colossians 1:17-19 and John 1:1-10 and Hebrews 1:1-4. Then in Revelation 5:9-14 we read why God’s servants in heaven say to Christ,

**“Thou art worthy”, “Worthy is the Lamb That was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.”**

Why?

**“For Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God ‘BY THY BLOOD’ out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”**

**Thus we learn that the LORD Jesus Christ is to be praised, worshipped and honoured both as Creator and Redeemer. This is a VERY important point! Note this expression of praise in the first part of Revelation,**

**“Unto Him that loved**

**us, and washed us from our sins 'IN HIS OWN BLOOD'.**

(Revelation 1:5). Christ said to John;

**"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, Which is, and Which was, and Which is to come."**

(Revelation 1:8).

**"I am He that liveth, and was dead, I am alive forever more, and have the keys of hades and death."**

(Revelation 1:18). This vision of the LORD Jesus Christ found here in Revelation 1 is congruent to Daniel's vision of the ancient of Days found in Daniel 7.

## CHRISTIANS BELONG TO CHRIST

### Mark 9:41

As we compare these glorious truths in The Revelation with the greatest story of the ages, recorded in Philippians 2:5-11, and know that Christ is mentioned 6988 times in the Books from Matthew to Revelation (according to my count), we are not surprised that the Apostle Paul said for himself, **"God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of the LORD Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world"** (Galatians 6:14).

Paul was directed by the Holy Spirit to write to fellow Christians,

**"ye are not your own...ye are bought with a price."**

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20). What a difference it would make in the life and behavior and service of Christians, if they would permit the Holy Spirit to teach them and constantly remind them that the LORD of Glory, Who suffered on the cross of Calvary, the eternal, omnipotent, sinless Christ, was the Creator of the heavens and the earth; and that this world belongs to Christ by right of creation AND by right of redemption.

**Little wonder then that God, the Father, desires that God, the Son, in all things should have the preeminence.**

(Colossians 1:18).

We should be able to understand the meaning of Philippians 4:19 when we read Romans 8:32. Note these two verses: **"My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."** , and, **"He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"**

Surely now we can understand better Colossians 3:23 and Colossians 3:17: **"Whatsoever ye**

***do, do it heartily (from the soul), as to the LORD, and not unto men.”***

, and,

***“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the NAME of the LORD Jesus, giving thanks unto God the Father by Him.”***

Some saved church members join with the great number of unsaved assembly members in their comment... *“this is taking religion too seriously.”* The great majority of saved assembly-members give little heed to Colossians 3:16,

***“let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.”***

There it is again, another very important ‘LET’ in Philippians 4:6-7, which it behooves every Christian to obey in these days of uncertainty, unrest, of international political, economical, and religious confusion...

***“Be careful (anxious, full of worry) for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, ‘LET’ your requests be made known unto God...And the peace of God, which passeth (is greater than) all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”***

Let us never forget the words of our LORD Jesus Christ, in John 12:26 and John 5:23, and let us, by God’s Grace and power, obey 1 Corinthians 15:58. Note the truth in these verses. Christ said, ***“if any man serve Me, Him will My Father honor”, “That all men should honor the Son even AS they honor the Father: he that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father Who hath sent Him.” “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always, abounding in the ‘WORK OF THE LORD’, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain ‘IN THE LORD’.”***

***“Be strong in the LORD, and in the power of His might.”*** (Ephesians 6:10). ***“Knowing that of the LORD ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the LORD Christ.”***

(Colossians 3:25).

Surely as we meditate upon what we have quoted from God’s Book, the Bible, we must know that the Christian belongs to Christ; that he is not his own; that he is bought with a price, the precious shed blood of the Eternal Christ. (1 Peter 1:18-23). We should know what the Apostle Paul meant when he said, ***“the love of Christ constraineth us.”*** (2 Corinthians 5:14). Before Paul wrote this to the Corinthian Christians he wrote, in 1 Corinthians 16:22,

***“if any man love not the LORD Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha”***

(“accursed, the LORD coming”). Another apostle, John, wrote;

***“we love Him, because He first loved us.”***

(1 John 4:19).

Remember that assembly, congregation, denomination members, (whatever you want to call them), however decent, respectable, moral, kind, gentle, religious and zealous, who DENY the eternal DEITY (that means He is GOD) and virgin birth of our LORD Jesus Christ, His perfect, sinless life, His vicarious death, His resurrection and ascension in a body, are called deceivers and anti-christ (2 John 7); and they make God a liar, because they believe not the record that God hath given of His Son. (1 John 5:10).

Inasmuch as the LORD Jesus Christ, Who is now in heaven appearing in God's presence for Christians (Hebrews 9:24 and Hebrews 7:25), is the Author and Finisher of our Faith, and wants all Christians to be Faithful Ambassadors, witnesses, and laborers, we do not want it said of us what is being said concerning so many denomination members, ***“they practice Christianity only when it is convenient and entails no sacrifice, hardship nor suffering.”*** And shame on the spiritual leaders who have changed conviction for convenience. (John 12:43, Galatians 1:10, and Jude 16).

## THE CHRISTIAN AND THE WORLD

Just before the LORD Jesus closed His ministry on earth He said to His disciples, ***“if the world hate you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you. if ye were of the world, the world would love its own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”***

(John 15:18-19).

***“I have spoken unto you that ‘IN ME’ ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.”***

(John 16:33). Then Christ said concerning His disciples, in His prayer to His Father...

***“They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”***

(John 17:16). Meditate on that verse for a few moments and try to grasp what the LORD is saying.

It would seem from these words of the LORD Jesus Christ that Christians would know that the term 'worldly Christian' seems to be paradoxical. Note how the world is described in 1 John 2:16, ***“All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is NOT of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth Forever.”*** Therefore Christians are

instructed, in 1 John 2:15,

***“love not the world, neither the things in the world: if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” “The friendship of the world is enmity with God...whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”***

(James 4:4).

The unsaved person is said to walk ***‘according to the course of this world’***. (Ephesians 2:2).

God thus instructs the saved person:

***“be not conformed to this world.”***

(Romans 12:2).

In Colossians 3, God explains to the Christian the meaning of Christ’s words in the seventeenth chapter of John, that the Christian is ‘IN THE WORLD’; but is ‘NOT OF THE WORLD’. Every Christian should read Colossians 3 at least one thousand times, and then by God’s all-sufficient Grace and almighty power, try to obey the command, ***“be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only.”***

There is no higher spiritual truth in the entire Bible than in Colossians 3, which begins...

***“if ye then be raised with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, NOT on things on the earth, Put to death therefore your members upon the earth”.***

After mentioning some of the sinful habits that are to be put away, these words of warning are added:

***“for which things’s sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.”***

(Colossians 3:6).

Note in this same Epistle to the Christians, or saints, what the LORD’s spiritual leaders wished for all of the Christians, and that for which they prayed fervently: ***“that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God”***

(Colossians 4:12),

***“that ye might be filled with the knowledge of God’s will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that ye might walk worthy of the LORD unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”***

(Colossians 1:9-10).

***“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved”*** Acts 16:31, while there is still time!

## So There You Have it!

Spread this message to everyone you know, far and wide. **The time is short**

Grace be to you and peace, from God: our Father, and The LORD Jesus Christ.

In The LORD Jesus Christ,  
[The Lion and Lamb Ministry](#)

Pastor David Picos, D.D.  
Minister and Ambassador for Christ in the Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18-20)

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