

**First Church of God**

**December 9, 2012**

**Sermon Outline  
Pastor Robert G. White**

**"The Light Of Christmas Is Still Shining"  
John 1:1-13**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

<sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

<sup>6</sup>There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. <sup>7</sup>He went as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

<sup>0</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

## INTRODUCTION

John speaks of Light "still shining in the darkness, for the darkness has never put it out."

(Goodspeed)

### I. THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS REVEALED. (vs. 1-8)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

<sup>6</sup>There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. <sup>7</sup>He went as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.

<sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

**A.** This light of Christmas was the light of men. <sup>4</sup>*In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

**Question:** Why; is eternal life in Christ a light to all mankind?

1. Jesus is the **light**.  
**The light**
  - reveals
  - strips away
  - routs the chaos
  - guides
  - shows the way
    - o the truth
    - o the life

2. Infuse energy and motivation into man so that he might **walk and live** as he should.

**Key:** This life was the light of **salvation**.

### B. The Light Of Christmas Shines In The Darkness.

**John 1:2...***He was with God in the beginning.*

- Jesus Christ is the light, (the Illumination) the power that penetrates the **darkness** of the world.

Darkness describes both the state and **works** of man.

- Darkness**
- does not understand the light.
  - does not overcome the light
  - does not extinguish the light.

**John 8:12....***When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

### C. The light of Christmas had a witness.

**John 1:6-8...***There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. <sup>7</sup>He went as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.*

- The man, was "sent from God" and he was sent on a very special mission!

- Sent**
- = means
  - to send out
  - to commission as a representative.

### Four Truths Of The Person Sent From God.

1. He **belongs** to God, who has sent him out.
2. He is **commissioned** to be sent out.
3. He **possesses** all the authority and power of God, who has sent him out.
4. He is to be a **witness**.

**John 1:7....** *He went as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.*

- The man came to bear witness of the **light**.
- The **purpose** of the man's witness is stated. Vs. 7. "so that through him all men might believe."
- To lead **men** to believe in Jesus Christ.

### II. The Light of Christmas Rejected

**John 1:9-11...** *The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.*

<sup>10</sup>*He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.*

**A. The true light of Christmas had come vs 9.**

- Truth** = means
- the opposite of false
  - the genuine
  - the real

**B. The true light of Christmas was in the world but not known. Vs. 10**

**Point:** Men **reject** Christ

The words "that which was His own" mean...

- To His own **home.**
- To His own **people.**

**Key:** The true light of Christmas was not received by His **own.**

**III. THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS RECEIVED.**

**John 1:12-13...***Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

**A. There were those who eagerly received Him. (vs. 12)**

**The results of receiving Christ.**

A person is given the power

The right = both **power and authority.**

A child of God = Sons and daughters of God.

**B. Those who receive the light of Christmas are born of God.**

**John 1:13...***children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.*

**Key:** The source of becoming a Child of God is a new **birth.**

- Through faith in Christ, this new birth changes us from the **inside out** rearranging **our attitudes, desires and motives.**

**CONCLUSION:**