

Light Up Christmas - Light & Love

Pastor Mark Wilks, JOHN 8:12

Introduction: What do we know about light?

- Light is both wonderful and dangerous.
- Light is both life giving and life taking!
- Jesus is the light of truth that dispels the darkness of falsehood.

The timing:

- Jesus is in Jerusalem at harvest; the purpose of the Feast of the Tabernacles/Booths is to commemorate God's provision for the people in the wilderness.
- God is always about the perfect timing. John 7:14
- Jesus is using images from the Feast of the Tabernacles in order to make more clear His identity as the Messiah and God's Son.

The setting:

- The light was a remembrance of the pillar of fire and the cloud. Ex. 13:21
- It is also a reminder that it has been over 1000 years since God has shown His presence.

The claim:

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." John 8:12 ESV

- 1) This world was made for light.
- 2) The incarnation makes the light accessible; unmediated light is too bright.
- 3) Jesus is not only for the Jews but for the world.
- 4) There is no alternative, there is no other light.
- 5) If you are not following you are in darkness. Ex. 13:22
- 6) Jesus is not an autonomous light.

The connection: John 8:1-11

- 1) Light completely exposes us all.
- 2) Our natural inclination is to withdraw from the light.
- 3) Only in the light of Christ will we find grace.