John 1:4

In Jesus was life, and that life was the light of all men. The light that men and women need to live in this world can only be found in Jesus. “Light” is used in this text to mean knowledge, wisdom, understanding, the ability to make the right decisions, and to have the mindset to live in the will of God. The spiritual life that Jesus gives each individual that embraces His life, and the mindset, gives that individual the ability to resist the challenges that confront each of us daily to move in opposition to God’s will.

Jesus and everything Jesus represents is in opposition to what the deceptive and oppressive systems of the world are using to capture the lives and desires of men and women everywhere. We live in a world system that seeks to elevate the privileged and diminish the impoverished. Jesus, throughout the Gospel, is in opposition to this. The poor are used to support and maintain the lifestyles of the rich and the affluent. In this one verse, Jesus is saying to everyone, “If you want to live through the struggles of this world, you need the life and the mindset of Jesus in your life.” This life that Jesus brings into the world is the light the world needs and is looking for. This is the light that the world and all its power, all its money, and all of its influence cannot put out.

In Jesus was life, and this life was the light of all men. This light cannot be put out. Imagine, if you will, there is a source of light. A source of power that we can go to no matter the situation, no matter

the circumstances, and this light cannot be put out, cannot be destroyed. You can go to this light. You can go to this fountain of strength and power in your moment(s) of need. The light of men can be put out. The light of men can be suspect. The light of men can grow dim. The light of men can fade. The words of men can be silenced. But the light that comes from God will never fade, and the Word of God can never be silenced. The will and word of God cannot be delayed. God's light comes on in the life of men and women when that individual surrenders to the authority that light brings into their life.

Before anything of significance takes place in the kingdom of God, a light should shine that allows us to see the path we are taking. Knowledge must be given; a vision must come to mind. Nothing is created without light, without knowledge. Before God formed the world, God first created the light. This light overcame the darkness that attempted to prevent the light from shining. But God said, "Let there be light," and the light shone in spite of the darkness. Light is a metaphor in John 1:4 for us to use as guidance in every aspect of our lives. Light allows us to see what is in front of us. Light allows us to see what we are doing. Light prevents us from stumbling when we follow the light.

We are always in need of illumination to guide the way. God is subtly telling us in Genesis 1:4 that we need a light to guide our steps, to direct our goings and comings. The Psalmist tells us, **"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."** This one verse in Psalms 119:105 encapsulates all of John 1:1-4: **Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.** Jesus, the Word made flesh is light. The light and life

that God sent into the world is the light that guides our every step if we pay attention to it. The word of God is a light that guides my path.

The Gospel of John, especially these first four verses, speaks of a Jesus that we will not experience until after the resurrection. These verses speak of the presence of Jesus as an ongoing reality in the life of the Christian. This light that is being alluded to and talked about is none other than the Holy Spirit is that light. The Holy Spirit is the deliverer of truth we all seek. The Holy Spirit is that power and strength in the world today we all need. The Holy Spirit is the light that will never fade and never be put out. **Jesus says in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world: he that follows Me shall never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."** The songwriter's chorus said it well: **"Walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright. Oh, shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus, the light of the world."**

Blessings,

Pastor Gool