

## A Lamp and a Light

### Int.

1. Aim: To show how the Word of God is a lamp and light for the pathway of life for everyone.
2. Ps. 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
3. Life is like a journey
  - a. Never been here before - new to all of us
  - b. Like walking on a dark and dangerous path
  - c. Compared to walking up a narrow street filled with holes, rocks, and all kinds of obstacles
  - d. We need a light to keep us from falling, and to keep us on the right way.
4. The Word is a Lamp and Light
  - a. Prov. 6:23 "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life."
  - b. Word is lantern of life for every step of our daily life
  - c. It is the only guide we need to make the right decision
5. The Bible will give answers to all the questions.
  - a. Neh. 8:8 "So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading."
  - b. 2 Pet.1:3 "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:"
6. Here are some answers to the major questions about the journey of life.

Where? Why? How? What? If? THEN !

## Discussion

### I. WHERE? Where did all this originate ? World, mankind

- A. Gen. 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
  
- B. God is eternal and the creator of everything
  1. Isa. 45:12 "I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded."
  2. Created the Sun, Moon, Stars
  3. Created Plants, rocks, hills, and rivers
  4. Created animals, birds, fish and all people
  5. Isa. 42:5 "Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:"
  
- C. God is the source of maker of it all
  1. Col. 1:16 "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"
  2. Rev. 10:6 "And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:"

## **II. WHY ? Why am I here on the earth ?**

### A. Love God

1. Deut. 6:5 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."
2. This is described in Matt. 22:36-38 as the greatest commandment - "Master, which [is] the great commandment in the law? 37. Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38. This is the first and great commandment."
3. This description is found 9 times in the Bible:
  - a. 6 times in Deut. 6:5, 11:1, 19:9, 30:6,16,20
  - b. 3 times in NT. Matt. 22:37 Mk.12:30 Lk.10:27

### B. Why am I here on earth?

1. To Love God - To Love God means we will do what he says
2. John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments."
3. 1 John 5:3
4. Josh. 23:11 "Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the Lord your God."

### C. We must not have idols -- love God not Man-made objects

1. Ex. 20:3 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."
2. Idols are not the purpose of our life
3. Idols of wood, stone, or even money are wrong
4. Anything that comes between us and God is an I dol!!!

### **III. HOW How do I live my life on earth ?**

- A. Amos 5:14-15 "Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. 15. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph"
1. There are two ways to live: We decide,
    - a. Good
    - b. Evil
  2. We must do good to please God
  3. Good living is the only way to live right
  4. Here are some examples
- B. Lev. 19:11 "Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another."
1. Stealing - taking what belongs to another
  2. Deal Falsely - cheat
  3. Lie - not telling the truth
- C. Tit. 2:11-12 "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12. Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;"
1. Denying:
    - a. Ungodliness
    - b. Worldly lusts

2. Live: ... in this present world

a. Soberly,

(1) Self-controlled, temperate, and disciplined.

(2) It is restraining desires, lusts, and appetites

(3) It is controlling everything and using it for its proper purpose

(4) We must do our duty to our self before we can do our duty to

others

b. Righteously

(1) Looking without -- right doing; fairness, honesty, justice in dealing with others.

(2) Living righteously is to treat our fellow man right.

c. Godly = duty to God

D. Prov. 20:11 "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."

1. The actions of a child tell about him

2. It can be pure and good - language and behavior that is right

3. A good child can grow into a good adult

E. We decide how we are going to live.

1. Joel 3:14 "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision."

2. Eccl. 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

#### **IV. WHAT ?? What if I have troubles in life ?**

- A. Troubles will come in life - Sooner or later we will all face them.
1. Job 14:1 "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble."
  2. There will be sickness, disease, death, hardships and troubles of all kinds
  3. John 16:33b "...in the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."
  4. What do we do?
- B. The Word is a lamp and light for our troubled lives
1. Nahum 1:7 "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him."
  2. Ps. 9:9 "The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."
  3. Ps. 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."
  4. Ps. 50:15 "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."
  5. The goodness of the Lord is shown in his being a refuge. He is always there.
  6. Rom. 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."
- C. An example of what we must do when we face troubles in life
1. David was running from Saul. He took refuge or hid in the rocks
  2. 2 Sam. 22:2 "And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;"
  3. There is refuge or safety in God for us in times of trouble
  4. He is dependable, He is our Deliverer !!

**V. IF ? If I forget to walk in the right way and go astray what can I do?**

A. Numbers 32:23 b "and be sure your sin will find you out."

1. If we do not follow God's way then it is sin!
2. It will be discovered, because it cannot be hidden.
3. Examples:

a. Judges 2:11 "And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim."

b. Obadiah 15 "For the day of the Lord is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head."

B. Gal. 6:7-8 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

C. Lam 3:40 "Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord."

1. Look and see that you have gone away
2. Then decide to return and do right
3. The Word of God is a lamp and light that will guide us back to the right way of life. 1 Jn. 1:7-2:2

## **CONCLUSION**

1. **Then -- If you do these things God will be with you.**
2. II Kings 18:3 "And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father did."
  - a. Hezekiah -- do that which is right
  - b. Like his father did
3. The word is a lamp and a light for our life!! Use I t!!
4. Ps. 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
5. The Questions of Life are Answered by God's Word!!!!
  - a. Where? did it all originate - God made all things !
  - b. Why ? am I here - To love God and keep His commandments !
  - c. How ? do I live - Seeking Good not Evil !
  - d. What ? happens when we have trials and problems - When Troubles come take Refuge in God and His Word !
  - e. I f ? I fall away -
  - f. Then I will turn back to God's way in repentance!
6. Rev. 22:14 "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."