

Walking in the Light

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

It was more than just a beautiful sight; it was one of those never-to-be-forgotten moments. From the window in my room, I watched the sun and all the variations of morning light rise over the Atlantic Ocean. The rays seemed to have a radiance and brilliance that I had not noticed before. In only a few seconds, the wonderful scene passed before my eyes, and then it seemed like another day.

While I reveled in the special impressions in my mind, in the distance I saw a man walking his two dogs down the shoreline. Although he appeared somewhat shadowy at a distance, eventually, as he walked on down the beach, he came to where I could see him more clearly. It occurred to me that he was walking in the light—in the light of the early morning—in the light of another day.

In our present text, John points us to the brilliance of divine light. Without hesitancy, he declares, “God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all” (1:5). After being enthralled with the glory of the Light Himself, he reminds us of our responsibilities to the light. “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness,” John writes, “we lie, and do not the truth” (1:6). Then, from his inspired perspective, he gives us some insight on “Walking in the Light.”

Walking in the light issues out of a consciousness of Who God is! The phrase, “God is light,” indicates that God is essentially pure. He is without darkness and without any influence of darkness. That is, there is no sin in Him and He is not contaminated by sin. He is clothed with light and dwells in light. He is pure and holy in His nature and attributes. He is pure and holy in His acts and works. And those who walk in the light taste a bit of His purity and holiness.

Walking in the light involves having communion with the God Who is! To walk in the light, “as He is in the light,” is to have intimate communion with God. John goes on to explain that, “we have fellowship one with another.” In the context, fellowship with God is a key issue. The reference, then, is not to horizontal fellowship—fellowship with other believers, but vertical fellowship—fellowship with the God Who is Light.

Walking in the light includes being cleansed by the God Who is! Understanding Who God is and fellowshiping with Him effects a spiritual cleansing. We are promised, “The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.” Being in the present tense, the word “cleanseth” indicates that as we walk in the light today, the blood of Jesus cleanses us. It also suggests as we walk in the light tomorrow, His blood cleanses us. May our hearts enter into this blessedness!