

# 1 John 1:5-10

1/21/19

John makes a very specific statement in his letter. It is a declaration of the nature and character of God, and it is a revelation about that character that was declared to him directly from Jesus. He says that God is light and in Him there is absolutely no darkness. We all quote John when we say, "God is love". (1 John 4:8) That verse is in the context of what we should be because of the reality of who God is. We should love because God is love.

That is also the case in 1 John 1 as John discusses that God is light. Because of that reality, there are natural results of us having fellowship in the light. John contrasts light with darkness. As participants or partakers of the light, we are to walk in the light rather than in the darkness. The contrast is between all that is good or godly, and all that is opposed to goodness or godliness. That is an ongoing process. As we continue to allow God's light to expose our sin, and we confess or admit the reality that is revealed, then God continues to forgive. He also continues the process of cleansing or purifying us from all unrighteousness.

The inevitable result is an ever-increasing sense of worship and fellowship with God and with others. It happens as we yield to the light of God's person, work, and word in our lives. We end up with nothing to fear, nothing to prove, and nothing to hide, because we are overwhelmed with God's glory and grace. That in turn brings great joy as John said in verse 4.

Consider what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 3:18. He is using Moses as an illustration and makes a very profound statement. As we continue to behold the glory of God (of which light is a reflection), we are progressively transformed into his image. As we face the light of God's glory, we continue to reflect it more and more. God's light has been revealed to us and the more we behold His glory, the more we reflect His glory. What a concept!

Please notice that what Paul and John are talking about is not punitive. It is grace. God's light is a grace in our lives. It is the only way that we understand the difference between darkness and life. It is what leads to ever increasing fellowship.

Our challenge this week is to continue to revel in the light, and enjoy what God is revealing in our lives.

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. What are general properties of light that you can think of?
2. How does that inform our understanding of who God is?

