

LIVING RIGHT IN A WRONG WORLD
GOD'S LIGHT AND OUR BLIGHT
1 JOHN 1:5-10



The Heart of the Matter

Other biblical writings tell us a lot about what God *does*, but 1 John focuses on who God *is*. While other writers wrote of God's power, His work, His will, and His way, John went back again and again to who God is in His nature. In the opening sentence of this letter, John stated that God is *life*. God is the source of life, the One who originates life, who gives eternal life, and who made Himself known as "the Word of Life" (1 John 1:1). While exulting in the memory of having seen Jesus, heard Him, and touched Him, the aged apostle stated that it's this One whom "we proclaim to you" (1:3). All of that prompted John to announce the message he wanted his readers to know—that God is *light*. That descriptive term represents, vertically, the *truth* and the *purity* of God in heaven. And John also addressed a practical or horizontal dimension regarding God's *light*. It plays a crucial role in distinguishing genuine faith from counterfeit claims made by people on earth. As we shall discover, God's light penetrates behind the words we say and reveals if, in fact, truth and purity are realities within us.



Discovering the Way

1. God's Character Is Holy and Pure (1 John 1:5)

God is perfectly holy and pure, which is important, because without God's light, we'd never find permanent relief or release from our inner darkness.

2. Our Nature Is Dark and Depraved—Even though Many Claim Otherwise (1 John 1:6, 8, 10)

Those who ignore their sin are liars; those who claim no sin are self-deceived; those who believe in perpetual perfection make God a liar.

3. Our Hope Is Cleansing and Confessing—Even though Some Don't Realize (1 John 1:7, 9)

If we walk in the Light, we enjoy intimacy with others. If we confess our sins, God forgives us.



Starting Your Journey

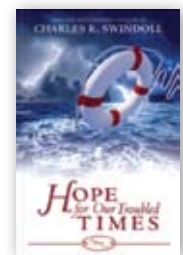
We begin each morning determined to walk all day in the Light and continue each day ever aware of our own sinful nature.



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