



Jesus is the light

John 12:35-37 “Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. 36 Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.”

I could just quote 20 Bible verses and be done with it. Yet, why is Jesus associated with light? There is something beyond just the verses. Why on earth would Jesus call himself the light? He then goes further to say that we (his believers) are the children of light. In the beginning of the Bible God created light to separate the darkness. I find that interesting. When we turn on a light, the darkness disappears. Why? It's because the light waves bounce off objects and our eye and brain give it form. Yet, the Bible says God separated the darkness. I tend to look at it this way. When we enter the water, we separate a part of it by our body. So, God came down on this formless planet that was totally dark. He put his light glory in-between darkness. Genesis 1 makes reference to light 8 times. Clearly it means something.

So, what does this have to do with Jesus claiming to be called light? Yes, it's a metaphor. A way of describing something using a word that is not associated with the thing your describing. For example, a man is as hungry as a horse. Jesus and some people have called him

many things like bread and savior. Ephesians 5:8 has a great analogy as to why Jesus needs to be called light. *“For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.”* People have lived in darkness for quite some time. The Spirit of God worked through people and empowered people throughout Biblical history. Yet, people remained cast out of Eden and Gods kingdom. Basically, we were cast into the dark place outside of God. Jesus came as the light of heaven. To shed light on a dark world once again like his Father did in the beginning. Notice Ephesians 5:8 makes reference to the light “in” the Lord.

Let me go further. 1 John 1:7 *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”* Men and their sin nature metaphorically walk in darkness. They don’t see God and his word as it truly is. In a sense we are blind or darkened from it. In comes Jesus and we begin to see. So, the Bible calls him the light. John 1:5 *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”* How can we separate the darkness in our lives by ourselves? The fact is we can’t. We need the light of Jesus.

Exodus 40:34 *“Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”* Moses face shone with a bright light because he was in the presence of Gods glory. Everything about God is light. It’s by no mistake that Jesus is called the light of the world. He’s Gods Son. John 1:1 *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”* We have read this many times that Jesus is also called the word. Look at Psalm 119:105 *“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”* The Bible goes out of its way to talk about paths. Here in this Psalm they put all three words together. It’s tough to walk in the dark. Jesus emulates the word of God. So, to read the good word puts light into our world. A light unto our path.

John 8:12 *"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*

Genesis 1:3 begins with *"Let there be light."* Of course, it does. Life begins with light. The trees grow and the grass rises. Humans need light from the sun. Our whole eco system survives off of light. I feel that the Bible is telling us that humans need more light. In respect to light waves, our eyes only use a small spectrum of it. Radiation waves and gamma rays are a form of light waves that we cannot see. There is a light (power) in Gods world that we also cannot see. The Spirit works in us. Jesus words work on us. The Bible has a way of transforming minds. In the flavor of metaphors, the light of the world (Jesus) changes us. Time and time again people claim to be changed. How? They see the light. It's not that Jesus is a bright light. Yet, his way makes a "lighted" way for us.

John 14:6 *"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* People have always said that truth gives light. That goodness gives light. It makes so much sense that if God made a path through darkness that Jesus (his Son) also can make a path through darkness to God. I think Jesus is called light because darkness (spiritual blindness) returned to the earth with the fall in Eden. Jesus is the light that takes us back through the darkness to God in heaven. Sometimes we give things metaphors to best describe something. I believe Jesus is called light because he is the way back. That light is using the word and Spirit to light a path. This light also brings life to darkened souls. It's the perfect metaphor of Jesus.

Matthew 5:14 *"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."*