1 - ***“I AM The Light Of The World”***

John 8:12

2 - **Jesus’ “I AM” Statements** John 8:58-59; Exodus 3:14

1. “**I AM** the **bread of life**” (6:35)
2. “**I AM** the **light of the world**” (8:12)
3. “**I AM** the **door of the sheep**” (10:7)
4. “**I AM** the **good shepherd**” (10:11)
5. “**I AM** the **resurrection and the life**” (11:25)
6. “**I AM** the **way**, the **truth**, and the **life**” (14:6)
7. “**I AM** the **true vine**” (15:1)

3 - **Context of John 8**

* Approx. 6 mos. before His crucifixion, Jesus had just ***“set His face”*** to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51) & **demanded full commitment**.
(Luke 9:57-62)
* **The debate over who Jesus was had reached a fever pitch**.
(7:5, 12-13, 17, 25-31, 40-52)
* Jesus had just **exposed the hypocrisy** of the scribes and Pharisees. (8:1-11)
* Jesus then proclaimed the second of His “I AM” statements.
(John 8:58-59)

4 - **Walking In Darkness Vs. The Light of Life**

* Jesus **“*again*”** spoke to them… (note John 7:37; when Jesus “**cried out**” to all who would listen). “***Them***”, the Pharisees. (vs. 13)
* **Following Jesus (light)** vs. **following the Pharisees (darkness)** & their traditions & hypocrisy. (Again remember vs. 1-11, their neglect of the “signs” and Jesus preaching (Luke 11:29-32), & the “**woes**” in Luke 11:37-54)
* This is in contrast to how the Pharisees viewed anyone who followed Jesus. (John 7:46-49; cf., 1 Corinthians 1:20-25)
* They “***loved the darkness***”. (John 3:19)

5 - **The Prophetic Word**

* The “***scriptures***” pointed to God sending His light. (2 Peter 1:19)
* Isaiah 9:2, *“****The people who walk in darkness will see a great light****; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them.”* (Matthew 4:12-16)
* Isaiah 42:16, *“I will lead the blind by a way they do not know, in paths they do not know I will guide them.* ***I will make darkness into light before them*** *and rugged places into plains. These are the things I will do, and I will not leave them undone.”* (cf., vs. 6; Ephesians 5:8)
* Isaiah 49:6, “*He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel****; I will also make You a light of the nations*** *so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.’”*

6 - **God’s Use Of Light**

**Salvation, deliverance and fellowship**

* Note Exodus 10:23 and the **plague of darkness** and its connotation with **God’s judgment/condemnation**. The Israelites ***“had light in their dwellings”***. (Luke 1:78-79; Psalms 27:1; Micah 7:8-9)

**Leadership**

* Exodus 13:21 – they were led in the wilderness by a pillar of fire to lead the way to the Promised Land. (Note Nehemiah 9:12)

**Revelation**

* ***“Bring to light…”*** God’s mystery. (Ephesians 3:3-11)

7 - **Light Through The Preaching Of The Gospel**

2 Timothy 1:9-11, *“****who has saved us*** *and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but a****ccording to His own purpose and grace*** *which was* ***granted us in Christ Jesus*** *from all eternity, 10 but now has been revealed by the appearing of* ***our Savior Christ Jesus****, who abolished death and* ***brought life and immortality to light through the gospel****, 11 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.”*

* “***Light***” does not come through entertainment, recreation or other social agendas.

8 – **Light Through The Preaching Of The Gospel**

* *“****The unfolding of Your words gives light****; It gives understanding to the simple.”* (Psalms 119:130; Acts 8:35; Luke 24:45; Nehemiah 8:8)
* *“****Your word is a lamp to my feet****, And a light to my path.”*
(Psalms 119:105)
* *“****Light is sown like seed for the righteous*** *and gladness for the upright in heart.”* (Psalms 97:11)
* “***For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light****; and reproofs for discipline are the way of life.*” (Proverbs 6:23; compare to Isaiah 5:20)
* Satan seeks to keep the world from seeing the “…***light of the gospel***” (2 Corinthians 4:4)

9 - **Jesus Said, *“You Are The Light Of The World”*** (Matthew 5:14-16)

* Matthew 5:14-16, **who is the “*you*”?**
* **Those in the kingdom** who are blessed because they; are
**poor in spirit, mourn, are gentle/meek, hunger/thirst after righteousness, are merciful, are pure in heart, are peacemakers and are willing to suffer for the sake of righteousness**. (vs. 2-12)
* Those living by **Jesus’ standard of righteousness**. (vs. 20-48)
* Those who **serve for the right reason**. (6:1-7)
* Those who are **hearers and doers of the Lord’s will**. (7:21-27)
* Those who are forgiven and added to His Body, the Church. (Ephesians 5:8; cf., 1:3-8; 3:8-10)

10 – **Jesus Said, *“You Are The Light Of The World”*** (Matthew 5:14-16)

What are we to do?

1. **Give the glory to God**! (Matthew 5:16, *“Let your light shine in such a way…”*, not “shine your light” to be seen of men for your glory.
Cf., 1 Peter 4:11; 2 Corinthians 4:15)
2. **Live by the authority of Jesus Christ**. (Colossians 3:16-17)
3. **Be in the world but not of the world while we share the light of the gospel**. (John 17:11-19; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Acts 26:18; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
4. **Honestly examine ourselves in the light of the gospel** & **guard ourselves from spiritual dan**ger (James 1:21-25; 2 Pet. 3:16-17; John 3:20-21)

11 – **Jesus Said, *“You Are The Light Of The World”***(Matthew 5:14-16)

What are we to do?

1. **Be vigilant, sober minded, trusting and courageous**.
(1 Thessalonians 5:6-11; Psalms 27:1-3)
2. **Expose what is hiding in darkness**. (Ephesians 5:11-13)
3. **Keep focused on our goal** while we l**ive in the fear of the Lord**  (Psalms 119:105; Proverbs 4:23-27; 1 Corinthians 4:4-5)