

## WHEN THE LIGHT SHINES

May 8, 2016 John 1:9-13 by Bob Branch  
Believing Into Life, Part 2

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“The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—<sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” **John 1:9-13**

**MAIN IDEA:** Jesus—the Light—has inserted himself into our world and we must choose how we will respond to him. How we respond to God’s initiative will either leave us in darkness and alienation or usher us fully into God’s own family as a dearly loved son or daughter. This applies both in the ultimate sense of eternity (will I inherit eternal life) and in our everyday lives as well (will I walk in my new identity).

1. **The true light—Jesus himself—EXPOSES all other lights as unable to truly illumine us... to light us up, to lead us out of the dark, to turn the lights on in us!**

**Faux-lights?**

**The true light, Jesus, Illuminates...** we see clearly, we’re **enlightened**, he cause **lights to go on**, he **light us up** with joy! He **leads us out** of the dark.

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have a life filled with light and will never live in the dark.” **John 8:12** GW

2. **The Light (Word) is in MOTION... That is, in Jesus, God is initiating!**

**The True light Gives light**

**He was Coming into the world**

**He was in the world**

**He came to his own** (the Jews)...

**He offers all who receive/believe him the authority** to be in the royal family, his children

**God is the INITIATOR... he’s always moving... we are the responders.**

“My Father is always working, and so am I... I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing.” **John 5:17-20** <sup>NLT</sup>

**He gives you light**

**He comes into your world**

**He IS NOW in your world**

**He comes to some who simply reject him**

**To ALL who welcome him/trust him, He offers the authority/ right to be his children**

3. **When Jesus shows up he always PROMPTS A CHOICE.**

“The issue is now clear. It is between light and darkness and everyone must choose his side.” **G.K. Chesterton**

**Some did not know Him...**

“this is eternal life: that they KNOW YOU, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” **John 17:3**

**Some chose not to Receive Him... They Reject him.**

**Some will Receive him...**

**Some will Believe him...**

**Some will become his sons/daughters/family...**

**Some will be reborn...**