

A composite image featuring a person's silhouette standing on a dark horizon line. The sky above is a gradient from light yellow at the horizon to deep blue at the top, with the Milky Way galaxy visible in the upper half. The text "THE LIGHT WAS GOOD" is centered in the upper half of the image.

**THE LIGHT WAS GOOD**

# IN THE BEGINNING

- Right from the start there was an incompatibility between light and darkness (Genesis 1:1-4). God recognized the inherent goodness of light.
- It is revealing, life-sustaining, and positive, while darkness is shrouding, associated with death, and is, by definition, negative (the absence of light).
- The two cannot co-exist...

A person is silhouetted against a bright, hazy horizon, standing on a dark, flat surface. The sky above is a deep blue, filled with stars and the glowing, cloudy structure of the Milky Way galaxy, which stretches across the upper half of the frame. The overall mood is contemplative and vast.

# **PLAIN WORDS; COMPLEX MEANINGS**

**It is not difficult to grasp light and darkness, but their symbolic value often leaves us perplexed. But no matter how we apply the dichotomy, we are always left with only two options, two divergent paths.**

# GOD IS LIGHT

- “God is light” (1 John 1:5) provides a foundation for our understanding of a life that is “well-lit.” God is pure, good, honest, and unafraid. So a life that is in the light will be conformed to this pattern.
- Having God as a starting point (Psalm 119:105 & 130, 27:1, Isaiah 2:5) eliminates the possibility of deluding ourselves into thinking we have light, when in fact we are in darkness (Proverbs 4:18-19).



# GOD'S LIGHT CAME TO US

- Jesus is the ultimate personification of the light of God in this world.
- John 1:1-10
- It is more than coincidence that the Creation language is being echoed here in the beginning of John's gospel. In the great battle between light and darkness, Jesus was the overwhelming victor, the ultimate light, the One who brought light to all the human race. Therefore...

A person is silhouetted against a sunset sky, standing on a dark horizon. The sky transitions from a pale yellow near the horizon to a deep blue at the top, where the Milky Way galaxy is visible. The text "THERE IS NO LIGHT WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

**THERE IS NO LIGHT WITHOUT  
JESUS CHRIST**

**Ephesians 4:17ff**

# EXTINGUISHING DARKNESS

- Jesus alone can extinguish the darkness in our lives (John 8:12, Col. 1:12-13). Stop tricking yourself into thinking that you are smarter or more enlightened than you actually are. He who does not know Jesus, does not know the light (Rom. 1:21, John 12:46)!
- This fact naturally leads us to the practical application: How do I live in the light with Jesus? What does this life look like? And how do I make changes that stick?



# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

- 1 John 1:5-10 – Be honest about sin, stop making excuses, and resolve to do better.
- Ephesians 5:7-14 – Make meaningful changes. Or do you love the darkness too much (John 3:19-20)?
- Nicodemus/Blind man – Illumination is often a process, like the sunrise. Don't undervalue how far you've come.
- Matthew 5:14-16 – Live unashamed. Act like you are the light of the world. Don't let those in darkness dictate the terms of your existence.



A person is silhouetted against a night sky. The sky is dark blue with the Milky Way galaxy visible as a bright, cloudy band of light. Several bright stars are scattered across the upper right portion of the sky. The person is standing on a dark, flat horizon line.

# **DARKNESS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE ETERNAL**

**2 Pet. 2:4,17, Jude 6,13, Revelation 21:22-22:5**