

I AM the Light

Tim Keller

*the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great **light***

Matthew 4.16

I AM the Light



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John 8.12-20

I AM the Light

Spiritual Searching

Rejected scientism

Rejected moralism

I AM the Light

The gospel says:

“Come meet a *Person*”.

How can we come and *see* Him?

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What did Jesus say about
Himself?

I AM the Light

I AM the Light of the world

- Metaphor: *light*
- Claim: *I AM*
- Call: *follow Me*

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1. The magnitude
of the *metaphor*

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We know about the
wonder and **danger** of light

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The sun is the source of:

Life

Truth

Joy

I AM the Light

Weeks and weeks of
darkness creates **despair.**

I AM the Light

Light is every bit as
dangerous as it wondrous.

I AM the Light

Enormous **paradox**:

unmediated sunlight without
protection would be the end of life

I AM the Light

Without light, we die...

With light, we die.

I AM the Light

Unmediated light will take
away **truth**...

It will also take away
your **joy**.

I AM the Light

I was shown by the light
what I *really* looked like.

I AM the Light

I'm not sure human beings can be **happy**
if they **really knew** what they looked like:

Spiritually

Psychologically

Emotionally

Morally

Physically

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Paradox:

We need light for **life, truth**
and **joy** but when we get it,
it takes them all away.

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2. The magnitude
of the *claim*

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And nobody killed Him...

I AM the Light

The feast of the tabernacles...
remembering how God gave them:

Shelter

Water

Light

I AM the Light

The cloud was a pillar
of fire.

I AM the Light

The Lord went before
them...to give them light...

the **Shekinah Glory** of
God's immediate presence.

I AM the Light

The last night of the
feast was the worst...

The glory is gone.

I AM the Light

Jesus stands before the
candelabra:

“I AM the Light!”

I AM the Light

I AM not like the prophets
that **point**
or the gurus that **reflect**
the glory of God.

I AM the Light

Ultimate **life** — eternal

Ultimate **truth** — sun

Ultimate **joy** — beauty

I AM the Light

The **founders** of every
other major religion say
“I am the **moon**”.

I AM the Light

Jesus says:

“I am the **Sun**”.

I AM the Light

Hebrews 1.3

He is the *radiance* of the
glory of God.

I AM the Light

I am the **beauty** you
long for...

I am the **mediator**

I AM the Light

The Old Testament knew this!

Moses:

“Show me Your glory”

I AM the Light

I want to **get in!**

Beauty:

we want to **bathe in it!**

I AM the Light

We feel the **purity** and
freshness of the morning...
but they do not make us
fresh and pure.

I AM the Light

The only way to see the sun
is with a filter...

we need a **mediator!**

I AM the Light

Jesus Christ is the
glory of God
in a way I can grab...
...in a way I can embrace.

I AM the Light

The light of God would
kill us because we are
too **sinful** for it.

I AM the Light

This is my Son!

I AM the Light

Jesus is not just the glory
cloud...He is also:

the **lamb** slain

the **rock** struck

and the **cleft** in which we hide.

I AM the Light

3. The magnitude
of the *call*

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What does it mean to follow
My Light?

I AM the Light

A. Live **consistently**

(some of you are doing things in the dark)

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Tendency of history:
Everything will be revealed

I AM the Light

B. Live **attractively**

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C. Live courageously

Post Office – lazy

Waiter – lie / cheat

Police Officer – corrupt

Neighbor – racist

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Simply by doing the normal
thing, you are going to
expose people.

I AM the Light

D. Live hopefully

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How do I know if I'm
beginning to get **illuminated**?

- Mad
- Scared
- Filled with love and wonder
- **NOT indifferent**

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How do I have Christ in my
life?

Look to me and be saved...

I AM the Light

You have to see you can't
do anything...

You have to see you can't
walk anywhere...

I AM the Light

“Young man, I can see you
are **miserable.**”

I AM the Light

Thank you for
the **JOY** of the **LIGHT!**

I AM the Light

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Matthew 4.16