

Woodland Baptist Church
Morning Worship - March 3, 2013
John 1:9-12, The Right to Become Children of God

1. **Vs. 9** You must _____ between _____ different lights
 - a. **[Personal Revelation] 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world [Historical Revelation].**
 - b. Brooke Foss Westcott - The phrase “which enlightens every man” describes the universal extent of “the light’s” action. The Words must be taken simply as they stand. No man is wholly destitute of the illumination of the “the Light.” In nature, and life, and conscience it makes itself felt in various degrees to all.
 - c. There are two lights to choose from - one leads to **life**, one to **death**.
 - i. True Light - [alethinophos] - authentic, real and genuine light that is from the Creator himself; the Word who came into the world is the light, the true light - the genuine and ultimate self-disclosure of God to man.
 - ii. False light - **2 Corinthians 11:12-15** - 14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.
 - d. **Gives light to everyone** - this has been interpreted three ways:
 - i. The light shown on every person without exception before Christ came and continues to do so. Romans 1:18-20
 - ii. Shining related to the incarnation, illuminating “everyone” without distinction [Jew and Gentile]
 - iii. Augustine’s suggestion of a town with only one teacher. Though not all the citizens are the teacher’s students, he is nevertheless the teacher for everyone [one light, freely available for any that want it]
 - (1) FF Bruce - “It is from this true light that all genuine illumination proceeds. Whatever measure of truth men and women in all ages have apprehended has been derived from this source. If they remain in _____, it is not because there is no illumination for them, but because they deliberately prefer the darkness.”
 - e. **Was coming into the world**
 - i. [kosmos] - the vast majority of John’s use of “world” are negative in use. The world is seen in darkness, rebellion and rejection of God and of Jesus.
 - ii. Those who have come to faith are no longer of this world; they have been chosen out of the world - **John 15:19** - If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.
2. **Vs. 10-11** Christ was not _____ by his own _____
 - a. **10 He was in the world [Creation Revelation], and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own [Incarnation Revelation], and his own people did not receive him.**
 - b. **He was in the world** - see Acts 14:14-16; Acts 17:24-28
 - c. **The World was made through Him** - Psalm 19:1, Colossians 1:15-16
 - d. **Yet the World did not know him...his own people did not receive Him** - see Isaiah 1:2-4; 65:2-3, Jeremiah 7:25-26
3. **Vs. 12-13** Those who _____ him were _____ of God
 - a. **12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**
 - b. “Here readers are immediately given the _____ of the entire Gospel: to move men and women to welcome, to place their trust in, and to give themselves to the person of Jesus Christ, who is the divine and human Word of God to the planet” - Frederick Dale Bruner
 - c. **How the children of God are born and not born:**
 - i. Being Born of God is found in receiving and believing in Christ’s name, person and work.
 - ii. Being born of God is not found in blood relationships or family _____, the will of the flesh [carnality] or the will of man [trying to do _____ things, like procreation].
 - iii. **1 Peter 1:23** - Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25 but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.