

THE WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST

John 8:12 ESV Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

How is Jesus the light of the world?

HOW DO WE ANSWER THIS QUESTION?

Context: Immediate context and broad context

1. Immediate context suggests that Jesus use of the image of light is an allusion to the pillar of fire that was with the Israelites in the wilderness
2. Broader context will look at the use of light in the Gospel of John

PILLAR OF FIRE – IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- Feast/festival of booths/tabernacles
- **John 7:2, 10 ESV**
- **Leviticus 23:39-43 ESV**

USE OF LIGHT IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN'S – BROADER CONTEXT

- Light = Life (spiritual)
- **John 1:4 ESV**
- **John 8:12 ESV**
- Jesus as the light of the world means Jesus is spiritual life

1. **Through Revelation - Jesus is the light because He reveals**

Reveals God – Jesus brings light/spiritual life by revealing God

Pillar of fire:

- **Exodus 13:21 ESV, Numbers 14:14 ESV**

John:

- **John 1:14 ESV, Luke 2:9 ESV**

Reveals Men's Hearts – Jesus brings light/spiritual life by revealing men's hearts

John:

- **John 3:19-21 ESV, Ephesians 5:13 ESV**

Jesus brings light (spiritual life) by revealing God and by revealing men's hearts.

2. Through Salvation - Jesus is the light because He saves

Pillar of fire:

- Nehemiah 9:12

John:

- John 12:35-36 ESV, John 12:44-46 ESV, Isaiah 49:6 ESV

Jesus is the light and brings spiritual life by saving us from darkness and death.

3. Through Preservation - Jesus is the light because He protects

Pillar of fire:

- Exodus 14:19-20 ESV, Exodus 14:23-27 ESV

John:

- John 1:4-13 ESV, John 11:9-10 ESV

Jesus is the light (spiritual life) of the world because he reveals, saves, and protects.

What should we do since Jesus is the light (spiritual life) of the world?

A. We should receive

- John 8:12 ESV, John 1:12 ESV

B. We should be humble

- John 3:21 ESV

C. We should be obedient

- John 3:19 ESV, 1 John 1:5-7 ESV

D. We should shine

- John 12:36 ESV
- Shine your light with your actions:
 - Ephesians 5:8-10
- Shine your light with your words:
 - 1 Peter 2:9 ESV