

# THE SON OF MAN, THE GLORIFIED CHRIST

## REVELATION 01:09–20

### *Introduction*

This is the *first vision* that Christ gives John. It is a vision of Christ Himself, of Christ in His glory and exaltation. It is in this vision that the glorified Christ proclaims His message to the seven churches. But before He speaks to the churches, Christ gives John a glimpse of Himself. Christ wants believers down through the centuries to know who it is that has given these messages to the churches. Christ wants all believers to know that the message to the churches is coming from the Supreme Majesty of the universe, from One who must be heeded, from One who possesses all power and knowledge, from One who can provide and protect, assure and secure, judge and destroy. This is the vision of the Author of Revelation, of the One who has given us this awesome message of Revelation. This is the vision of the Son of Man, the glorified Christ Himself.

- I. The setting — Patmos (vv. 9-10).
- II. His loud, trumpeting voice giving instruction (vv. 10-11).
- III. His presence in the midst of the seven golden lampstands or the churches (vv. 12-13).
- IV. His awesome and frightening appearance (vv. 13-16).
- V. His reassuring presence and care (vv. 17-18).
- VI. His clear instructions (v. 19).
- VII. His interpretation of the vision (v. 20).

### **I. *Revelation 01:09–10 John the Apostle at Patmos***

The setting for the vision was the island of Patmos (see *Patmos, Rev. 1:9*). John says three things.

1. He calls himself a brother and a companion to the believers of the churches. By *brother* he means that he is a believer even as they are believers. They are brothers in the family of God, brothers to the Lord Jesus Christ and to one another, all having been adopted into the family of God. By *companion* John means that he has lived among the believers. He has walked day by day in their midst as a companion with them. But note: John had a particular experience in mind. He had been a companion with them in their...
  - day to day tribulations: trials, afflictions, persecutions, sufferings, pressure.
  - day to day seeking after the kingdom: looking for the kingdom of God, longing and seeking after it.
  - day to day patience: enduring and persevering against all trials and temptations: standing fast in looking for and seeking after the kingdom of God.

***Mat 24:13*** “*But he who stands firm to the end will be saved.*”

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*Acts 14:22* Strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.

*2 Tim 2:12* If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us.

2. John says that he was on the island of Patmos when Christ gave him the visions of Revelation. Note: he says that he was there for the cause of Christ; that is, he had been banished or exiled to the island for preaching the Word of God and the testimony of Christ (see *Patmos*, Rev. 1:9).
3. John says that he was *in the Spirit on the Lord’s day*. The *Lord’s day* undoubtedly means Sunday, the first day of the week, the day that Christ was raised from the dead. *In the Spirit* means that Christ put John in a trance, that He gave John a deep spiritual experience that lifted his mind and spirit above this world and put him in the very presence of Christ Himself.

**Thought 1.** Note how God met John’s need. John was alone, stranded on an island that was as barren and isolated as could be. Imagine being alone — banished from society, loved ones and friends. But John knew Christ and Christ met his need.

*Mat 28:20* “And teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

*Heb 13:5* Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

*1 Pet 5:7* Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

*Isa 41:10* So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

### REVELATION 01:09 PATMOS

This was the island to which John the Apostle was banished.

=> It sat out at sea only about forty miles from the great city of Ephesus.

=> It sat in the midst of a group of islands called the Sporades.

=> It was only about ten miles long and six miles wide.

=> It was an isolated, barren, rocky island with hills rising to about one thousand feet.

There is little question about John being banished to the island for preaching the gospel of Christ. William Barclay gives abundant evidence for this.

“It was the unanimous tradition of the early Church that John was banished to the island of Patmos in the reign of Domitian.

“Tertullian says: ‘The apostle John was banished to the island’ (On the Prescription of Heretics, 36).

=> “Origen says: ‘The Roman Emperor, as tradition tells us, condemned John to the island of Patmos for witnessing to the word of truth’ (Homilies on Mathew).

=> “Clement of Alexandria tells us: ‘On the death of the tyrant John returned to Ephesus from the island of Patmos’ (The Rich Man’s Salvation, 42).

=> “Jerome says that John was banished in the fourteenth year after Nero and liberated on the death of Domitian (Concerning Illustrious Men, 9). “This would mean that John was banished to Patmos about A.D. 94 and that he was liberated about A.D. 96.” (What Barclay says is outlined for clarity. *The Revelation of John*, Vol. 1. “The Daily Study Bible.” Philadelphia, PA: The Westminster Press, 1959, p. 51.)

**Thought 1.** In the darkest hours of human need God is always there. God will meet us if we will only cast ourselves upon Him and call for Him. This was true with John when he was exiled, and it was true with others in their dark exile. The Pulpit Commentary makes the following point.

=> It was in exile that Jacob saw God at Bethel (Gen 35:6f).

=> it was in exile that Moses saw God at the burning bush (Exo 3:1f).

=> It was in exile that Elijah heard the still small voice (1 Kng 19:3f).

=> It was in exile that Ezekiel saw the glory of the Lord by the river Chedar (Ezk 1:3f).

=> It was in exile that Daniel saw the Ancient of days (Dan. 7:9f).

(A. Plummer. *Revelation*. “The Pulpit Commentary,” Vol. 22, ed. by HDM Spence and Joseph S. Exell. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1950, p. 5.) □

## REVELATION 01:10 IN THE SPRIT

John is said to be *in the Spirit* four times (Rev. 1:9-10; 4:1-2; 17:1-3; 21:9-10). These mark off the four major visions of Revelation. Note that the first vision is given by Christ coming down to John. But for the last three visions John is commanded to “come up here”; he is given the perspective of heaven upon the events which shall be hereafter. □

## II. Revelation 01:10–11 Exaltation and Glory of Jesus Christ

There was the loud, trumpeting voice of the Lord giving instructions. The vision begins. John hears a *loud voice* behind him, a voice that sounded like the call of a trumpet. The idea of the trumpet is that of authority, of an overpowering and commanding voice. The Lord instructed John to write what he saw in a book and to send it to the seven churches of Asia.

**Thought 1.** Note that Christ was not giving John a message for himself, but for the church. He was to use what Christ was giving him for the edification of believers, to

build them up in the faith. This is the great purpose for Revelation, the reason why it must be taught in the church: to edify and build us up in the faith.

### **III. *Revelation 01:12–13 Presence of Jesus Christ in the Church***

There was Christ standing in the midst of seven golden lampstands, that is, in the midst of the churches. The lampstands represent the churches (v. 20). Why this symbol? Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, and it is the task of the church to hold Him forth before the world. The church is to proclaim the light of Christ to the world, and it is to do so with the brilliance and speed of light. Note that Christ stands in the midst of the candlesticks. The churches receive their light from Christ. Unless He stands in the midst of the church, the church has no light. The church must see to it that Christ is in its midst, and the church must proclaim the light of Christ to the world.

**Thought 1.** For Christ to be in the midst of the church means that the message of Christ is the very focus of the church. The message of Christ is, of course, the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures. He is the very theme of the Scriptures and it was the Scriptures that He Himself proclaimed. The church must make absolutely sure that the Holy Scriptures are read, studied, taught and preached among its people and to the community at large.

**Isa 9:2** *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*

**John 1:4** *In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

**John 8:12** *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*

**John 12:35** *Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going.”*

**2 Cor 4:6** *For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

**Eph 5:14** *This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*

**Rev 21:23** *The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.*

**Mat 5:14** *“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”*

**Acts 13:47** *For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”*

**Eph 5:8** *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.*

*Phil 2:15* So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.

#### **IV. Revelation 01:13–16 Exaltation and Glory of Jesus Christ**

There was the awesome and frightening appearance of Christ. Note who it is standing in the midst of the golden lampstands or churches. It is the Son of Man, Christ Himself. This means a most wonderful thing: the message of Revelation is from the Lord Himself. It is not the message of a man, not a message that we have to question and wonder about and search out to see if there is truth in it. Revelation is the message of Jesus Christ, of the exalted Lord Himself. It is a message that can be trusted, a message that is true from beginning to end. It is a message that we must heed, for it is the message of the Lord Himself.

Now, note the vision. John's vision of Christ was so awesome that it defied description. There was no human language to describe Him. All John could do was take some of the precious and awesome things of earth and say the glorified Lord is like that.

1. Jesus Christ was clothed with a robe down to His feet (v. 13). This was the robe of prophets (Zec 3:4), of priests (Exo 28:4; 39:29; Lev 16:4), and of kings and princes (1 Sam 24:5, 12). The robe symbolizes the prophetic, priestly and kingly ministry of Christ.  
=> As prophet, Jesus Christ proclaims the Word of God to us.  
=> As priest, Jesus Christ gives us access into the presence of God and makes us acceptable to God.  
=> As king, Jesus Christ rules and reigns over all the affairs of the universe, and He protects and provides and works all things out for good to those who love and follow Him.
2. The chest of Jesus Christ had a gold sash strapped across it (v. 13). This particular sash was something like the chest piece or breast piece of the high priest on which the names of his people were engraved (cp. Exo 28:4; 39:29). The sash or chest piece covered the heart. This symbolized that Christ holds His people and His church ever so close to His heart. They are all engraved upon the chest piece of His heart and held ever so dear by Him. (See notes, Exo 28:15-30; 39:8-21).

*Rom 8:38-39* For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3. The head and hair of Jesus Christ were as white as white wool and snow (v. 14). This is the picture of Christ as the Ancient of Days, as being the eternal Lord of the universe. It is possible that this is also a picture of His sinlessness and purity of mind. The spiritual warfare is fought in the mind, and Christ never sinned; He never even had one evil or negative thought that came short of God's glory. He was the sinless Son of God Himself.

**Dan 7:9** “As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.”

**2 Cor 5:19, 21** That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation... God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**1 Tim 3:16** Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

4. Jesus Christ had eyes that were like blazing fire (v. 14). This symbolizes a piercing, penetrating power. He sees everywhere, even in the dark places and behind closed doors. His eyes search the innermost recesses of the heart. He knows all; He is omniscient and He is able to conquer all those who reject Him and do evil. No one will be able to hide from Him nor can anyone hide anything from Him.

**Dan 10:6** His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

**Heb 4:13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

**Jer 17:10** “I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve.”

**Jer. 23:24** “Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?” declares the LORD. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the LORD.

5. Jesus Christ had feet like glowing bronze. This symbolizes strength and perseverance. His feet are the feet that preached the gospel, the glad tidings of peace. But they are also the feet that shall tread down His enemies. His feet are also able to rush to the rescue of His people.

**Isa 52:7** How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

**Dan 10:6** His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

**Rom 10:15** And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

**Heb 4:15-16** *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

6. Jesus Christ had a voice that was like the sound of rushing waters (v. 15). His voice symbolizes authority.

=> It sends forth the glorious message of salvation, hope, joy, confidence and comfort.

**John 3:29** *“The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.”*

**John 10:4** *“When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.”*

**John 18:37** *“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”*

**1 Th 4:16-18** *For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.*

=> It thunders forth majestic rebuke, conviction and judgment.

**Psa 29:4** *The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic.*

**Jer 25:30** *“Now prophesy all these words against them and say to them: ‘The LORD will roar from on high; he will thunder from his holy dwelling and roar mightily against his land. He will shout like those who tread the grapes, shout against all who live on the earth.’”*

**John 5:28-29** *“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out — those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.”*

**Acts 9:3-4** *As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”*

**Rev 3:20** *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.*

7. Jesus Christ held seven stars in His right hand (v. 16; cp. v. 20). The seven stars symbolize the messengers, the ministers of the churches. His hand securely holds the messengers with skill and strength and comfort.

**Dan 12:3** *Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.*

**John 15:16** *“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”*

**Acts 9:15** *But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.”*

**Acts 26:16** *‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you.’*

**Mat 28:19-20** *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

**Heb 13:5** *Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”*

**1 Tim 1:12** *I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service.*

**2 Tim 1:12** *That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.*

**2 Tim 4:18** *The LORD will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

8. Jesus Christ had a sharp two-edged sword coming out of His mouth (v. 16). This symbolizes the Word of God and its penetrating power (cp. 2 Th. 2:8).

**Heb 4:12** *For the word of God is living active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**2 Tim 3:16** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.*

9. Jesus Christ had a face that was like the sun shining in its full strength. This symbolizes the dazzling brilliance of His presence in all of His majesty and honour and glory as God.

**Mat 16:27** *“For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done.”*

**Mat 17:2** *There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.*

**John 17:5** *“And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.”*

**Acts 9:1-5** *Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” “Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied.*

**2 Cor 4:6** *For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

**Rev 5:12** *In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!”*

## **V. Revelation 01:17–18 The Assuring Presence of Jesus Christ**

There was the reassuring presence and care of the Lord. John was terrified. He fell at the feet of the Lord as though he were dead. But note the calm assurance of Christ. Christ reached out with His right hand and softly and tenderly touched John, assuring Him that He was not there to consume him. Christ said four things to John.

1. “Do not be afraid” (v. 17). He was declaring that He had not appeared to John in judgment but in love and care. He was appearing to commission John and to use him in the great mission of building up the churches and of reaching the lost for God.

**Mat 10:30-31** *“And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”*

**Rev 1:17** *When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last.”*

**Isa 41:10** *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

**Isa 43:1-2** *But now, this is what the LORD says — he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”*

2. “I am the First and the Last” (v. 17). That is, He is the beginning and the end. He is the One who can be with a person forever — when the person is born and when he dies and during all the days in between. He can be with a person throughout all of eternity. John need not fear the awesome, terrifying presence of Christ, for He is the eternal Lord of the universe as well as the Saviour of man.

**John 8:58** *“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”*

**John 17:5, 24** *“And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began”... “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.”*

**Rev 22:13** *“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”*

3. “I am the Living One; I was dead; and behold, I am alive for ever and ever!” (v. 18). The exalted and glorified Lord need not be feared, for He is the same Person who came to earth and died and arose for our salvation. He is exalted and dwells in the most awesome and frightening glory, but He dwells there to save us, not to condemn us. He lives for ever and ever to make us acceptable to God and to carry us through the evil and death of this world.

**John 1:4** *In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

**John 10:10** *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”*

**John 11:25-28** *Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.”*

**John 14:6** *Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

**Rom 1:4** *And who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Rom 10:9** *That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

**1 Pet 1:3-4** *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. And into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you,*

4. “I hold the keys of death and Hades” (v. 18). Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world. He has conquered death, and He can deliver us from judgment and Hades, of hell. He has the keys to unlock both death and hell and to deliver us from the bondage of both.

**2 Tim 1:10** *But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.*

**Heb 2:14-15** *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*

**Rev 21:4** *“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”*

**John 5:24** *“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”*

**John 14:19** *“Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.”*

**Isa 25:8** *He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.*

## **VI. Revelation 01:19 The Revelation**

There were the clear instructions of Jesus Christ. Christ repeats His commission to John. He tells John to write three things. Note: these things provide an outline for the book of *Revelation*. John was to write...

- *What he had seen:* that is, the vision of the glorified Christ (chapters 1-2).
- *What is now:* that is, the state and condition of the churches (chapters 2-3).
- *What will take place later:* that is, the consummation of human history, the coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ and the end of the world (chapters 4-22).

## **VII. Revelation 01:20 The Church**

There was Christ interpreting the vision for John. The interpretation is clearly stated.

=> The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches. The word “angels” (angelos) means messenger as well as heavenly angels. There are several different ideas as to whom the word refers here. The weight of evidence points toward the meaning being the ministers of the churches.

=> The seven lampstands are symbols of the seven churches. Remember what the symbol means: the church holds forth the light of the world, the glorious light of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Mat 5:14** *“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”*

**Acts 13:47** *For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."*

**Eph 5:8** *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.*

**Phil 2:15** *So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.*

**1 Th 5:5** *You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ■*