

Stuff Light

John 1:1-14; Luke 2:25-35

Shedding His light on a consumer driven society

While the 'stuff' of Christmas can steer us sideways, He is the true light for our paths. Last week we met Anna (Luke 2) and her proclamation about the child as Israel's redemption.

Today we look at a second senior citizen's perspective, a man named Simeon who said the child was,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Luke 2:32

We also see John (John 1) using similar wording,

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

JESUS AND CHRISTMAS "STUFF"

He knew "stuff's" place at the **NATIVITY**.

He was life and light incarnate,

- **WORSHIPPED** with gifts and
- **FOLLOWED** in His example and teachings.

He is an everyday **stabilizer** not an economic **stimuli**.

- He came to show us glory and shed light on our path.
- He was not an economic stimulus package.
- He was God's Messiah not Google's Marketer!

While stuff can detour me, His light gives **DIRECTION** and **MOTIVATION**.

His light **PENETRATES** darkness.

His light reveals **TRUTH**.

His light can supplement but not **CONTRADICT** biblical truth.

May we practice "stuff light"

- Let stuff be a lighter portion of our focus.
- Let His light be the guiding power of our lives.

May we see and give gifts,

- As a worshipful expression.
- From an enlightened view.

as Stuff should be that way today – subservient to light

**32a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”**

THE BABE WAS DESCRIBED AS LIGHT AND GLORY

John 1:1-14

4In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.**5**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^a it. **6**There was a man sent from God whose name was John. **7**He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. **8**He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ...

14The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

HIS LIFE WAS OUR LIGHT

PENETRATES DARK

His ministry was one of light (over 250 occurrences?)

Light in the Bible speaks of direction and motivation
It pierces or penetrates the darkness and it reveals And reminds us of truth.

Stuff is stuff

Inanimate

Used by business to guide/steer

Never to have control of my life

People are people

They are different than stuff

they think they have a heart

they have dominion: stuff, desires, thoughts ..

Jesus came as a light for people not a marketer of stuff

Luke 2

28Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

29“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss^d your servant in peace.

30For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

It can also speak of continuing relation that is in line e with biblical truth.

The Gospel Light

Light can supplement biblical truth

It cannot reveal new truth that contradicts biblical truth

Stuff and light

Gifts at Christmas were meant to pay homage to him

Stuff should be that way today – subservient to light

Send the Light

Words and Music by Charles H. Gabriel

1890

Psalm 43:3

"O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me;
let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles."

There's a call comes ringing over the restless wave,

"Send the light! Send the light!"

There are souls to rescue there are souls to save,

Send the light! Send the light!

Refrain

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine forevermore!

We have heard the Macedonian call today,

Send the light! Send the light!

And a golden offering at the cross we lay,

Send the light! Send the light!

Refrain

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine forevermore!

Let us pray that grace may everywhere abound,

Send the light! Send the light!

And a Christlike spirit everywhere be found,

Send the light! Send the light!

Refrain

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine forevermore!

Let us not grow weary in the work of love,

Send the light! Send the light!

Let us gather jewels for a crown above,

Send the light! Send the light!

Refrain

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light, the blessed Gospel light;

Let it shine forevermore!

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