

John 1:9-13

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.



¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.



1. The Light That Reveals
2. The Light Received
3. The Light That Confirms



1. The Light That Reveals



John 1:9-11

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Sin is any feeling or thought or speech or action that comes from a heart that does not treasure God over all things.

John Piper



Psalm 139:23-24

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! ²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!



AD 55: 1 Cor 15:9 - For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

AD 60: Eph 3:8 - To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

AD 64: 1 Tim 1:15 - The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. of whom I am the foremost.



2. The Light Received

John 1:12

¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,



Rom 4:5

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,



Habakkuk 1:13

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil, and you cannot tolerate wrong.



Forms of Active Righteousness (Martin Luther's preface to Galatians)

Political or Civil Righteousness: Righteousness based on how well one obeys the public laws in our country.

Cultural Righteousness: Righteousness based on one's adherence to family practices and societal norms.

Ethical Righteousness: Righteousness based the ability to follow the prevailing moral code.



Passive Righteousness: The righteousness of Christ permanently received based solely on Christ's perfect record



“For there is no comfort of conscience so firm and so sure as this passive righteousness.”

- Martin Luther



What does God think of you right now?



What does God think of you right now?
What can you do to change that?



3. The Light That Confirms



John 1:12-13

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¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.



Question 34: What is Adoption?

Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into a number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God.

- Westminster Shorter Catechism



“When I regarded God as a tyrant, I thought sin a trifle, but when I knew him to be my father then I mourned that I could ever kick against Him. When I thought God was hard, I found it easy to sin, but when I found God so kind, so good, so overflowing with compassion, I smote upon my breast that I could ever rebel against one who loved me so and sought my good.”

- Charles Spurgeon

