

**JOB SERIES TWELVE
HOW TO FIX THE WRONG VIEW OF GOD
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**PSALM 36:9; JOHN 9:5; JOHN 12:35; JOHN 1:4,5,9; PSALM 119:11,105; JEREMIAH 1:5; PROVERBS 3:32; PSALM 139:3; MATTHEW 5:14; JOHN 8:12; HEBREWS 1:3; JOHN 14; LUKE 15
(Sermon 1592)**

This morning we continue our series within a series as we examine developing a healthy view of God that is Biblically accurate as well as easily experiential. An essential key to developing an emotionally healthy view of God is the ongoing process of walking in the Light. Today we will spend some time walking in the Light. Psalm 36:9 will help to focus our efforts: "For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light." It is amazing how light exposes darkness. Light brings truth out into the open where it can be examined and believed.

LET'S BEGIN WITH A MOMENT OF REVIEW

Two Weeks Ago We Examined Several Views Of God:

Distant
Inspecting
Disappointed
Intimately and Compassionately Involved in our Lives

Last Week We Examined How Our View Of God Is Shaped Positively Or Painfully Through:

Life Events
Religious Traditions And Experiences
Growing Up Relationships

TODAY WE WILL EXAMINE HOW TO FIX TWISTED AND MISSHAPENED VIEWS OF GOD.

Psalm 36:9: "For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light."

We reshape our view as we walk in the light.

John 9:5: "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

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."

John 1:4, 5, 9: "In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world."

God never uses an analogy of Himself without it being accurate. The electromagnetic spectrum of light is an apt illustration of God as Light: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Note the physical relationship between Light and Life.

GOD HAS PROVIDED THREE SOURCES OF LIGHT TO ENABLE US TO SHAPE PROPERLY OUR VIEWS OF GOD.

Our view of God is reshaped as we walk in the light of God's truth.

"When you become a Christian you must pray, read the Bible, and go to church." Why!??
Because these are the light!

1. THE LIGHT OF THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." The purpose of the Word of God is to give light to reshape our view of God.

Psalm 119:11: "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." The proper concept of God only comes with hiding the word in our hearts and meditating on it all day long.

If we will ask the following three questions of every Bible passage we will begin to experience what the real God is really like:

1. What do these passages reveal about God's heart?
2. What does it do to my heart when I see what is going on in God's heart?
3. How am I to respond to God and to His heart and to His response to the people in the text?

The three Hebrew words for intimacy enlighten us as to the heart of the real God:

"Yada" = "To Know": God knows us (Jeremiah 1:5).

"Sod" = "To Disclose": God allows us to know Him (Proverbs 3:32).

"Sakan" = "Deep, Caring Involvement": God wants to know us so that He can be caringly involved in our lives (Psalm 139:3).

2. THE LIGHT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Matthew 5:14: "You are the light of the world."

When we interact with the light in God's people it can reshape our view of God. We see the real God reflected when God's people accept us at the point of our failure.

3. THE LIGHT OF THE SON

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."

Hebrews 1:3: "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word."

Jesus is where we must begin if we are to develop an accurate view of the real God. We must experience the real God as seen in the gospels in the person of Christ. This begins with a good Christology. We have to find the real God in Jesus Christ! Jesus said to Philip in John 14: "Philip, if you have seen me you have seen the Father."

We have to have the light of the Son before we can approach the Old Testament.

Very few Bible passages allow us to look right into God's heart like the parables Jesus told of the lost coin, the lost sheep and the lost sons in Luke 15. Let's close with a meditation on the passage.