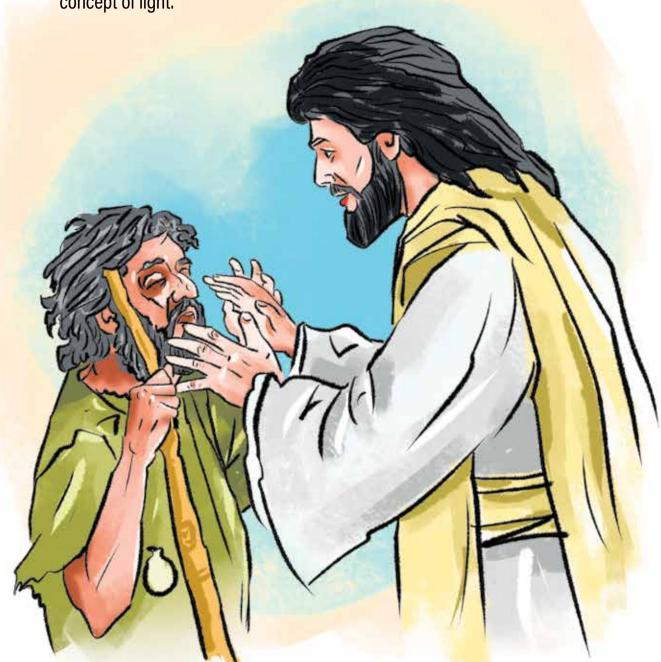


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"I am the Light of the World"

John identifies Jesus, the Promised Messiah, as the Light of the world. But when Jesus says He is the Light of the world, He means much more than the physical concept of light.



Light is so essential for human life: It removes darkness and gives warmth. But to understand Jesus' divine words, it's essential to get into the shoes of the man paralysed for thirty-eight years waiting for someone to help him get into the Sheep Pool.

When Jesus made him walk without getting into the Sheep Pool, He broke the Sabbath law, which the Jews followed very strictly. So how does Jesus become the light then?

STANDARD VI WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS

God gave the Ten Commandments to the people of Israel but over the years they drafted their own laws, which became more important than human concern and compassion. The Jewish society surrounded itself with darkness until Jesus came and declared that the Sabbath was made for human beings, and not the other way around. What Jesus meant was that the human person was more important than the law.

Jesus, therefore, reduced all laws and commandments to just one – the law of love: love God with all your heart and love your neighbour as yourself.

Saint John tells us that love must be shown in action, not in mere words. Absence of mutual love causes a terrible darkness and Jesus shows the light to the right path of love.

By healing the blind man, Jesus, the light of the world, removed the dark thinking that a man suffers because he or his parents have sinned. He declared that the man was blind so that God's power might be seen at work in him.

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world."

The Pharisees who held laws above humanity could not accept Jesus as the Light. They preferred to stay in darkness, but the blind man accepted Jesus as the Light and that is why he boldly told the Pharisees: "What a strange thing that is! You do not know where He comes from, but He cured me of my blindness! Unless man came from God, He would not be able to do a thing!"

The courage of the man shows Jesus the Light has already illuminated his mind and heart to proclaim Jesus before the dark forces that array against him. If we accept the light of Jesus, we will have new life from Him.

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Word of God John 9:5-7

"While I am in the world, I am the light for the world." After he said this, Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle; he rubbed the mud on the man's eyes and told him, "Go and wash your face in the Pool of Siloam." So the

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Know Now: The Cathedral of Christ the Light, also called Oakland Cathedral, is the cathedral of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland in Oakland, California. Christ the Light, the first cathedral built entirely in the 21st century, replaces the Cathedral of Saint Francis de Sales, irreparably damaged in the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989. The Cathedral of Christ the Light was designed by architect Craig W. Hartman.

man went, washed his face, and came back seeing.

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Find out a famous painting on the theme – Jesus the Light of the World. Do you find anything interesting? Write a short note.

Bible@Home - John 5: 1-18

MY TASK THIS WEEK

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To Do

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