**Research on: I am the light of the world**

John 8:12

12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

**Light** in this passage is *phos* in Greek which means “the light emitted by a lamp, a heavenly light such as surrounds angels when they appear on earth, anything emitting light; a lamp; a star; to shine or make manifest, especially by rays, luminousness; that which is exposed to view of all, openly, publicly, the power of understanding esp. moral and spiritual truth” (Strongs 5457).

**Followeth** in Greek is *akoloutheo* which means “to follow one who precedes, join him as his attendant, join one as a disciple” (Strong 190).

**Walk** in Greek is *peripateo* which means “to walk; to make one’s way; progress to make due use of opportunities; to regulate one’s life; conduct one’s self; deport oneself” (Strongs 4043).

**Darkness** in Greek is *scotia* which means “darkness; the darkness due to want of light; ignorance of divine things; dimness; obscurity literally or figuratively” (Strongs 4653).

“Light" is that by which we see objects distinctly. The light of the sun enables us to discern the form, the distance, the magnitude, and the relation of objects, and prevents the perplexities and dangers which result from a state of darkness. Light is in all languages, therefore, put for "knowledge" - for whatever enables us to discern our duty, and that saves us from the evils of ignorance and error. "Whatsoever doth make manifest is light," [Ephesians 5:13](http://biblehub.com/ephesians/5-13.htm). See [Isaiah 8:20](http://biblehub.com/isaiah/8-20.htm); [Isaiah 9:2](http://biblehub.com/isaiah/9-2.htm). The Messiah was predicted as the "light" of the world, [Isaiah 9:2](http://biblehub.com/isaiah/9-2.htm), compared with [Matthew 4:15-16](http://biblehub.com/matthew/4-15.htm); [Isaiah 60:1](http://biblehub.com/isaiah/60-1.htm). See [John 8:12](http://biblehub.com/john/8-12.htm); "I am the light of the world;" [John 12:35-36](http://biblehub.com/john/12-35.htm), [John 12:46](http://biblehub.com/john/12-46.htm); "I am come a light into the world." The meaning is, that the λόγος Logos or Word of God is the "instructor or teacher" of mankind” (Barnes Notes, [www.biblehub.com)](http://www.biblehub.com)).

*“but shall have the light of life*— He that closely, humbly, steadily follows me, shall have the divine light continually shining upon him, diffusing over his soul knowledge, holiness, and joy, till he is guided by it to life everlasting” (Benson Commentary, www.biblehub.com).

**Prophecy of the Messiah:**

Gen. 1:16

And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: *he made* the stars also.

Isaiah 9:2 “The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, on them has the light shined” (Ellicott’s Commentary, [www.biblehub.com)](http://www.biblehub.com)).

“A great light. "The Light of the world," "the Sun of righteousness," "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world, "first broke on man in that northern tract" by the way of the sea, "when Jesus came forward to teach and to preach in "Galilee of the Gentiles." For thirty years he had dwelt at Nazareth, in Zebulon. There he had first come forward to teach in a synagogue ([Luke 4:16-21](http://biblehub.com/luke/4-16.htm)); in Galilee he had done his first miracles ([John 2:11](http://biblehub.com/john/2-11.htm); [John 4:54](http://biblehub.com/john/4-54.htm)); at Capernaum. "Upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim," he commenced his preaching of repentance ([Matthew 4:13-17](http://biblehub.com/matthew/4-13.htm))” (Pulpit Commentary, www.biblehub.com).