



The Letters of John

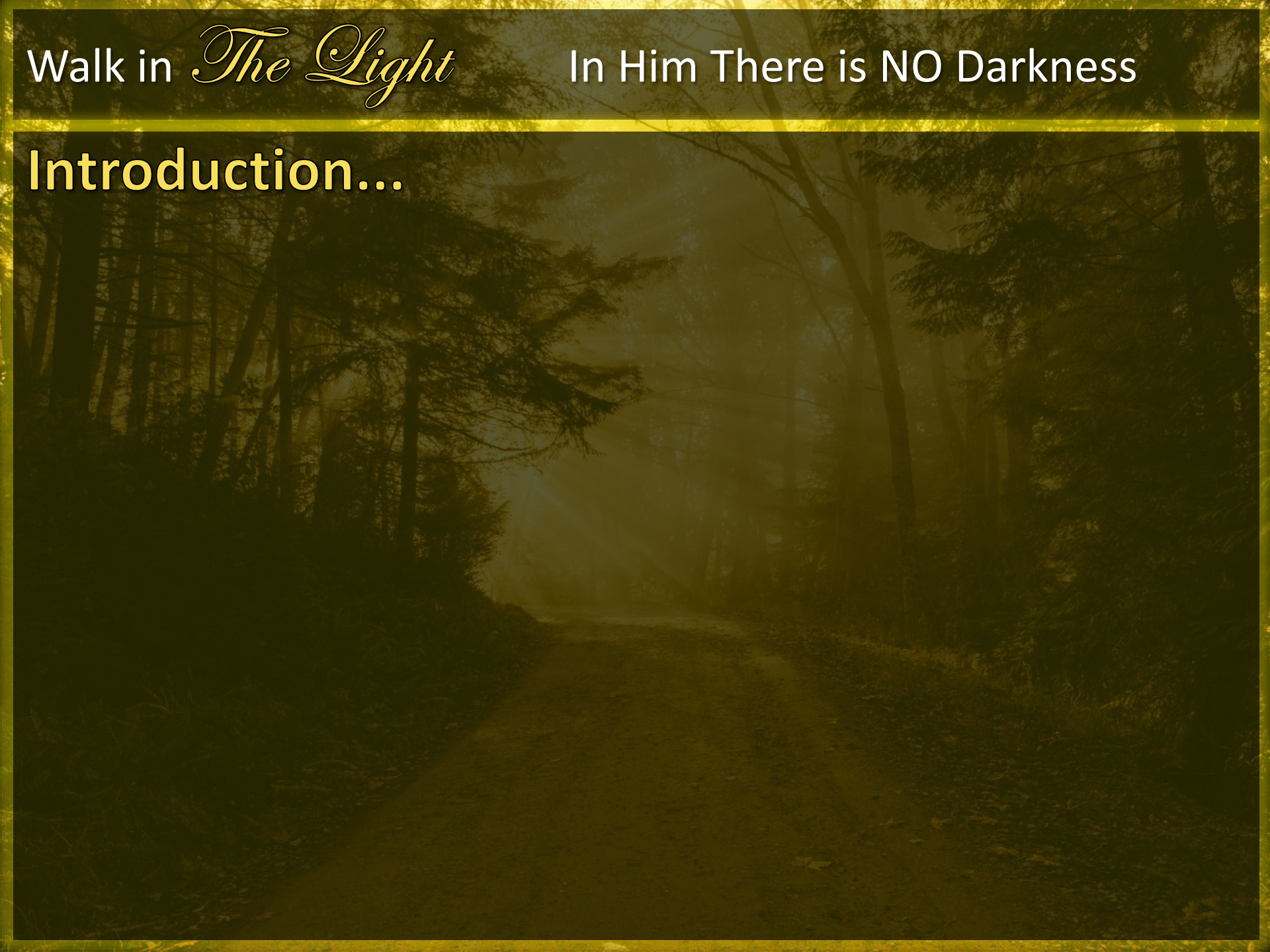
Walk in *The Light*

In Him There is NO Darkness

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Introduction...



Walk in *The Light*

In Him There is NO Darkness

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

– **1 John 1:5-10**

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God is Light

- Theme from beginning to end in Scripture: God is Light and he is pushing back the darkness
 - Creation, Moses and burning bush, Pillar of fire leading Israel out of Egypt, Golden lampstands in tabernacle represent God's presence, coming Messiah... "We have seen a great light...", and God's presence within the believer is seen as light.
- Light represents God and all his goodness, God in his holy purity, God's incredible glory
- Darkness represents evil and evil deeds, life without God, inability to see, sin and all its affects

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God is Light

- John's words are refuting any belief that there is any evil/darkness in God
- Hard for us to grasp – a being of pure goodness
 - There is no other being like him – he's not like us
 - Many people (Christians included) have bought into the lie that God is "mostly good"
 - When we doubt God's goodness, we are entertaining the thought that there might be evil (darkness) in him
 - Lies we believe... impure motives, pleasure in causing pain, isn't aware of how His actions affect us, He is imperfect and makes mistakes, etc.)

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Walk in the Light vs. Walk in Darkness

- John is confronting incorrect beliefs, claims and arguments – thus the many “if” statements
 1. The claim that we have fellowship with God, but walk in darkness
 - If we claim we have right standing with God, our actions and words must match
 - “walking in darkness” – willfully choosing the path of sin (darkness/disobedience) rather than the path of God (light/obedience)
 - Evidence of walking in the light – fellowship with God and others, and we are cleansed from our sin

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Walk in the Light vs. Walk in Darkness

1. The claim that we have fellowship with God, but walk in darkness
2. The claim that one does not have sin
 - Not just a claim to sinlessness, but arrogance that one is not in need of God's forgiveness
 - Essential to understanding and accepting the gospel is our utter brokenness and lostness without God
 - Modern day equivalent... "I'm a good person, I'll be ok. It wouldn't be fair for God to judge me"
 - The remedy? Humble yourself and confess your sin. He is faithful and just and will cleanse and forgive you!
 - Consequence: We deceive ourselves and call God a liar

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Walk in the Light!

1. Choose to live your life in the light

- God is light and in Him there is NO darkness!
- Push back against our culture's obsession with darkness/privacy – great way to deceive yourself

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¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

— John 3:19-21

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Walk in the Light!

1. Choose to live your life in the light

- God is light and in Him there is NO darkness!
- Push back against our culture's obsession with darkness/privacy – great way to deceive yourself

2. Choose the path of life and forgiveness

- Jesus offers us freedom from darkness
- Jesus offers us to cleanse us and forgive us, but we must humble ourselves and acknowledge our sin first
- Jesus offers us deep fellowship with God and with other believers