



*the light of  
christmas*



---

**24<sup>th</sup> dec 2021**

**ps swee ming**

*rious*

**MAS**

**A MANGER**

**E, HOPE & LOVE TO THE WORLD**

*Service*

**BER 2021**

**M**

# John the Apostle ...

- Longest surviving apostle ...
- Author of John's Gospel; John's Epistles 1,2 & 3; & Revelation.
- Gospel of John – last Gospel to be written....
- John had a lot of time to think, reflect & meditate on what to write ...
  - Most concise, Very succinct ....
    - God is Love, God is Light, 7 I AM's...
  - Opening verses of John's Gospel ...



# John the Apostle ....

## *John 1:1-9*

*1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*2 He was with God in the beginning.*

*3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.*

*4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

*5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.*

# John the Apostle ....

*John 1:1-9*

*6 There came a man who was sent from God;  
his name was John.*

*7 He came as a witness to testify concerning  
that light, so that through him all men might  
believe.*

*8 He himself was not the light; he came only as  
a witness to the light.*

*9 THE TRUE LIGHT THAT GIVES LIGHT TO EVERY  
MAN WAS COMING INTO THE WORLD.*

# *the light of christmas*

**CHRISTMAS ...**

**All about the coming of**

**THE LIGHT into a DARK world ...**

**v5 darkness has not**

**... understood it**

**... overcome it**

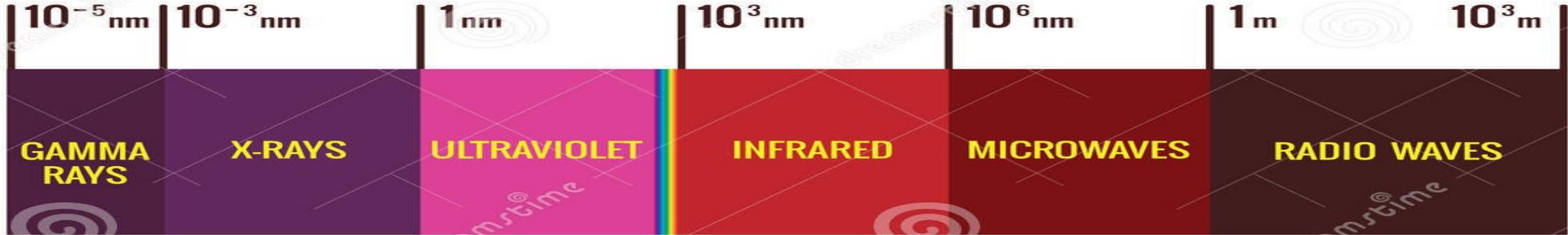
**... extinguish it**

**... put it out**



# Q: What is light ?

## ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM



380 nm 750 nm



## VISIBLE LIGHT SPECTRUM

light of Christmas ....

- Light has many and varied properties ....
- Some are obvious while some are not ...
- Drawing from the varied properties of light
  - 4 important lessons from the 'light of Christmas' ....



*light of christmas*

# 1. Light 'CLARIFIES' ...

Light ...

↳ Illuminates ...

↳ Shows ...

↳ Reveals ....



*light of Christmas :*

**1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

Eph 5:13 (NCV)

*But the light makes all things  
easy to see,...*



*light of christmas*

## **1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

John 1

***4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men.***

***5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.***

***9 THE TRUE LIGHT THAT GIVES LIGHT TO EVERY MAN WAS COMING INTO THE WORLD.***



# *light of christmas*

## **1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

**JESUS CHRIST, God's Son ...**

↳ **Came as the Light that 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas ...**

↳ **The True Light came to ...**

↳ **Dispel the World's darkness ...**

↳ **Bring clarity into our lives ...**

↳ **Where there is LIGHT ...**

**DARKNESS will flee ...**



*light of christmas*

## **1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

John 8:12 (TLB)

*Jesus said to the people, "I am the Light of the world.  
So if you follow me, you won't be stumbling through  
the darkness, for living light will flood your path."*



# *light of christmas*

## **1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

**Ps 119:105**

***(NIV) Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light for my path.***

***(TLB) Your words are a flashlight to light  
the path ahead of me and keep me  
from stumbling.***



# *light of christmas*

## **1 Light 'CLARIFIES' ...**

Isa 42:16 (Message)

*But I'll take the hand of those who don't know the way,  
who can't see where they're going.*

*I'll be a personal guide to them,  
directing them through unknown country.*

*I'll be right there to show them what roads to take,  
make sure they don't fall into the ditch.*

*These are the things I'll be doing for them —  
sticking with them, not leaving them for a minute."*



# *light of christmas*

## **2. Light 'CLEANSES'**

- Light has disinfecting properties
- Sunlight can kill germs ...
- Used for disinfecting drinking water ... 'SODIS'



*light of christmas*

## 2. Light 'CLEANSES'



Upper-Room  
Ultraviolet  
Germicidal  
Irradiation  
(UVGI)



*light of christmas*

## **2. Light 'CLEANSES'**

Similarly the LIGHT of CHRISTMAS ...  
the LIGHT of CHRIST...

↳ brings not physical cleansing ...

↳ but more important...

↳ spiritual cleansing...

↳ cleansing from sin ...

↳ cleansing from the effects of sin ...

↳ cleansing from the consequences of sin...



*light of christmas*

## **2. Light 'CLEANSES'**

1 John 1:5-7

***God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.***

***if we are living in the light, as God is in the light...***

***the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.***



*light of christmas*

## **2. Light 'CLEANSES'**

**Rom 6:10**

*The death he died,  
he died to sin once for all;  
but the life he lives,  
he lives to God.*



*light of christmas*

## **2. Light 'CLEANSES'**

**1 John 1:9**

***But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.***

***(TLB) But if we confess our sins to him, he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.***

***[And it is perfectly proper for God to do this for us because Christ died to wash away our sins.]***



*light of christmas*

### **3. Light 'CURES'**



*light of christmas*

### **3. Light 'CURES'**



**Phototherapy for ....**

- **Eczema**
- **Psoriasis**
- **Vitiligo**
- **Acne**
- **?Cutaneous lymphoma**



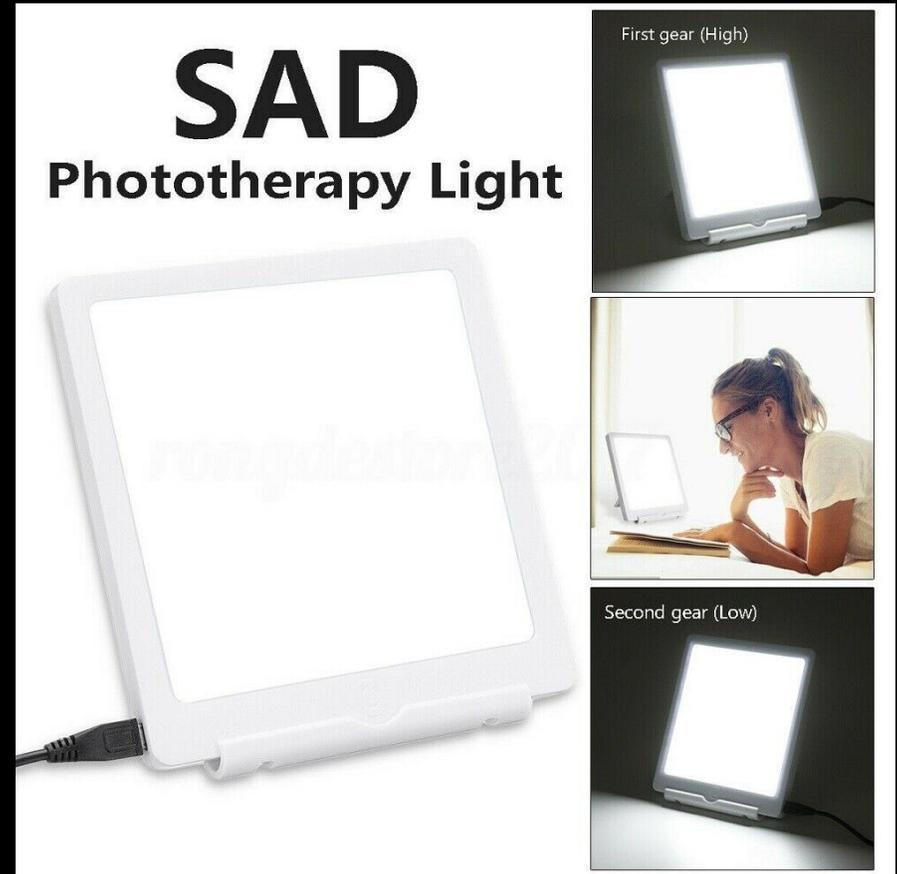
*light of christmas*

### 3. Light 'CURES'

Light used to treat S.A.D. ...

'Seasonal Affective Disorder' .....

- In temperate countries esp long winters ...
- The lack of natural light could make you more likely to get depressed, even suicidal ...



*light of christmas*

### **3. Light 'CURES'**

**Matt 4:16**

***"...the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of  
the shadow of death  
a light has dawned."***



*light of christmas*

### **3. Light 'CURES'**

**Rom 8:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup> Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,***

***<sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.***

**SIN & DEATH has been CONQUERED ....**



*light of christmas*

### **3. Light 'CURES'**

**2 Tim 1:10 (Message)**

*But we know it now.*

*Since the appearance of our Savior,  
nothing could be plainer:*

***DEATH DEFEATED,  
LIFE VINDICATED IN A STEADY BLAZE OF LIGHT,  
ALL THROUGH THE WORK OF JESUS.***



*light of christmas*

## 4. Light 'CREATES'

Light is necessary for ...

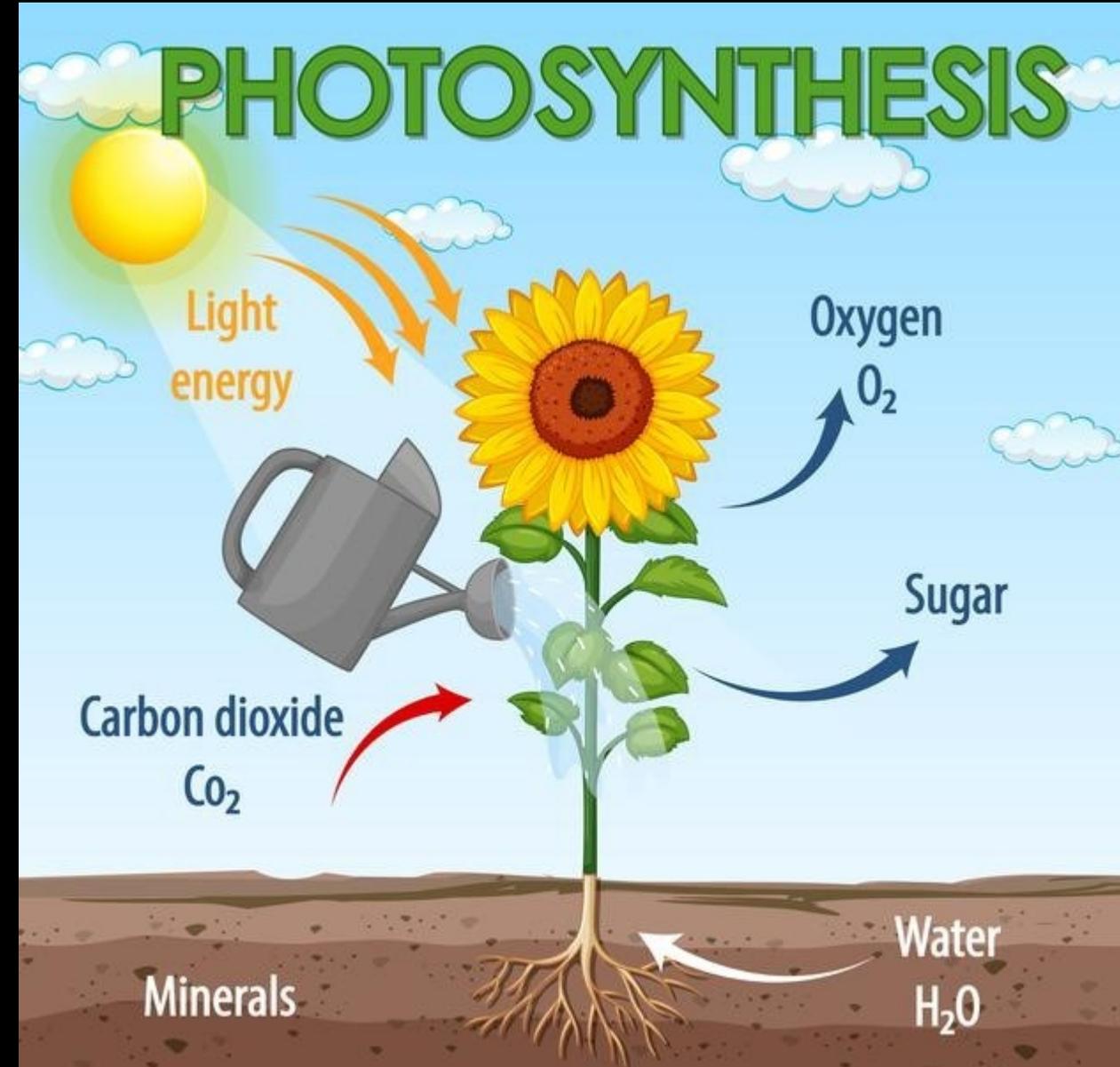
➤ Photosynthesis ...

↳ Plant Life ...

↳ Animal Life ...

↳ Human Life ...

❖ Rare exceptions



*light of christmas*

## 4. Light 'CREATES'

Hour 5

GPhase



*light of christmas*

## 4. Light 'CREATES'

# Phototropism



Hour 59

GPhase



*light of christmas*

**4. Light 'CREATES'**



*light of christmas*

## 4. Light 'CREATES'

# Heliotropism



They just face east to attract pollinators.

SN



*light of christmas*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

Our God is a GOD of ALL CREATION ...

At the Beginning of Time ...

Gen 1 :3 *"Let there be light"...*

*"and there was light"*

Psalms & Isaiah refers to ...

↳ the Light that is to come ...

Matthew, Luke & John ...

↳ God's Light has come ...

↳ Born as a Baby, in a manger, in Bethlehem ...



*light of christmas*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**John 1:3-4** *“Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life,*

**AND THAT LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.”**

**Col 1:16** *“For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,...”*



*light of christmas*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**At the End of Time ....**

**Rev 21:23-24 *The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, ...***

**Rev 22:5 *There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light.***



*light of christmas*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**God is still in the CREATING BUSINESS ....**

**2 Cor 5:17**

***“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
HE IS (not maybe, might be) A NEW CREATION.  
The old has passed away;  
behold, the new has come.***



*light of christmas*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**Rev 21:5-6**

***He who was seated on the throne said,  
"I am making everything new!" ...  
He said to me: "It is done.***



# CONCLUSION

## 1. Light 'CLARIFIES'

- ↪ we were/are in darkness of sin ...
- ↪ we cannot find our way out ...
- ↪ *The Light of Christmas* came to Reveal and Show us The Way...

## 2. Light 'CLEANSES'

- ↪ light can cleanse sin in human hearts & lives ...
- ↪ *The Light of Christmas* is God's answer to sin ...



# CONCLUSION

## 3. Light 'CURES'

- ↪ darkness & sin → death ...
- ↪ *The Light of Christmas* gives life ...
  - ↪ Life in all it's fullness (John 10:10)
  - ↪ Eternal life ...
- ↪ The CURE for SIN & DEATH is ...
  - to have the indwelling *Light of Christmas* ...
  - inviting Jesus Christ into your life ...



*Conclusion ...*

## 4. Light 'CREATES'

➤ by inviting *the Light of Christmas* into your life...

↳ darkness ...

↳ sin ....

↳ death ....

} death with

↳ New Life ... Full Life ... Eternal Life ...

John 10:10 (Message)

*"... I came so they can have real and eternal life,  
more and better life than they ever dreamed of."*



*Conclusion ...*

## **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**Eph 5:13-14 (NCV)**

***<sup>13</sup> But the light makes all things easy to see,***

***<sup>14</sup> and everything that is made easy to see  
can become light. This is why it is said:***

***"Wake up, sleeper! Rise from death, and  
Christ will shine on you."***



*Conclusion ...*

#### **4. Light 'CREATES'**

**Caution - Luke 11:34-36**

***34 Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body also is full of darkness.***

***35 See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness.***

***36 Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be completely lighted, as when the light of a lamp shines on you."***



# *light of christmas*

## **Natural Light**

- 1. Light 'CLARIFIES'**
- 2. Light 'CLEANSES'**
- 3. Light 'CURES'**
- 4. Light 'CREATES'**

## **LIGHT of Christmas**

- **Darkness & sin revealed**
- **Sin cleansed**
- **Death dealt with**
- **New Life...**  
**New Hope ...**  
**New Beginnings...**



# *the light of christmas*

**Lighting of Candles ....**

**Symbolic Commitment / Recommitment of ...**

**↳ Christ as the Light of Christmas ....**

**↳ Inviting Christ into my Heart ....**

**↳ Inviting Christ into my Life ...**

**↳ Inviting the Light of Christmas  
to become the Light in my Life ...**

