



**=I AM SERIES=**

**I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD  
John 8:12**

**INTRODUCTION:** We now come to the second of the "I am's." (Teacher, spend a few minutes reviewing last week's lesson, "I Am the Bread of Life." Notice that the Bread of Life was typified by the Table of Shewbread in the Tabernacle. Right across the room in that Tabernacle from the Table of Shewbread was the Golden Candlestick. So Jesus gave us first that He was the Bread of Life, typified in the Shewbread, and now that He is the Light of the world, typified in the Golden Candlestick. Let us notice some things about Jesus as the Light of the world.

**1. WE ARE SUPPOSED TO TAKE HIM, THE LIGHT, THE DARKNESS. JOHN 1:5.**

- All the lights aren't supposed to stay together. A light is supposed to go where darkness is. The purpose of light is to dispel darkness. A little boy was asked one day what he was doing with a flashlight out in the dark. He said, "Mama, I am shooting holes in the darkness." That's exactly what Jesus does if we carry him to those in darkness.

**2. WE ARE TO POINT TO THAT LIGHT. JOHN 1:7,8.**

- In other words, Jesus is the Light, but people do not know that He is the Light. Because of that, we are to point to Him and show Him as the Light of the world.

**3. EVERY MAN HAS ENOUGH LIGHT TO BE SAVED. JOHN 1:9.**

- People often ask the question, "How about the heathen in nations that have never heard the Gospel?" The answer is that every man has enough light where he can be saved.

**4. LIGHT IS A TYPE OF SALVATION. ISAIAH 9:2.**

- (Teacher, why not turn the light off in class and then turn it back on to show how a person being saved is like coming from darkness into light. Explain the plan of salvation here.)

**5. THE HIGHER A LIGHT IS RAISED THE FARTHER IT SHINES. MATTHEW 5:15.**

- This means we are to raise Jesus high. Take a light and put it on the floor and raise it a little bit and notice how the circumference of the light increases as the light rises. We're supposed to raise up Jesus as the Light of the world, and the higher we raise Him the farther his light will shine.

**6. WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. MATTHEW 5:14.**

- a. Now there seems to be a contradiction here, but there is not. Jesus is the Light of the world, and we are the light of the world. Someone has likened this to the fact that Jesus is the Sun (Malachi 4:2) and we are the moon. The moon has no light of its own. Its only light is what is

reflected from the sun. Even so we have no light of our own except Jesus reflects on us and we shine His light to the world.

- b. An eclipse of the sun takes place when the world gets between the moon and the sun. Since we are the moon and He is the Sun, when the world gets between us and Jesus, the Sun is eclipsed for us and the Light does not shine as it should. (Teacher, you might take three round objects to class. Let one round object represent the planet earth; one, the sun; and the other, the moon. Show how that when the earth gets between the sun and the moon there is an eclipse and the light is not as bright as it used to be.)

**VISUAL AIDS:** Why not take several different kinds of light to class. Take Christmas tree lights. Too many of us are like them; we shine only once a year. Take some flashing lights. Too many of us are like them; we flash on and off and do not shine consistently. Take a flashlight which is used only when we are in trouble. Too many of us shine only when we are in trouble and turn to God only when we are in trouble. Teacher, think of all the different lights you could take to class and show what kind of lights we are and what kind of lights we ought to be.

**CONCLUSION:** A blind man in a certain city carried a lantern everywhere he went. Folks couldn't understand it. One time someone asked him, "Why do you carry a lantern everywhere you go?" "To keep folks from stumbling over me." This is one reason why we should take the light of Jesus everywhere we go-to keep folks from stumbling over us.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 5:14 "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."