**The Light of the World**

Which came first the chicken or the egg: light or darkness?  Surprisingly darkness came first according to God’s WORD.

Genesis 1

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.  3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.  Darkness was and then there came light.

This light as described by dictionary is an illuminating agent or source, as the sun, a lamp, or a beacon.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil the darkness of death both physically and spiritually entered the world.  Here again darkness (spiritual and physically) precedes the light.

This darkness as described by dictionary is absence of spiritual illumination or knowledge.

Genesis 2

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Here again darkness was then came the light into world

John 1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light that all men through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

When Jesus came as Savior, he said, “I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”. (John 8:12)  I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. (John 12:46)  Jesus reiterated that, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world” (John 9:5). By receiving Jesus we receive the light which is the life of man.  “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:” (Ephesians 5:8)

Since Jesus knew He was soon to leave this world for a while He charged His followers with these words, “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid”. (Matthew 5:14)  Notice He said you are the light of the world not a light of the world.  Without the reflection of Jesus from Christians then the world becomes totally dark.He further charged us, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”. (Matthew 5:16)  “We are to give light unto them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death”. (Luke 1:79)

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. (John 3:19)   “And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not”. (John 1:5)  “Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness”. (Luke 11:35)

What is our source of power for light?

John 17

20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one.

For the glory of the Lord gives us power to be the light of the world.  Jesus compared us to a city set on a hill that could not be hid.   In Revelation there is a city that needs no artificial light. “And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof”. (Revelation 21:23)