

I AM- The Light of the World

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12

The opposite of demanding that everyone receive what they deserve is that they get more than they deserve, they receive mercy.

Witness the human species. The fatherland of Bach, Beethoven, Luther, and Goethe also gave us Hitler, Eichmann, and Goering. A nation weaned on the Bill of Rights also brought us slavery and the Civil War. As a species and as individuals, in every one of us wisdom, creativity, and compassion vie with deceit, pride, and selfishness. -Philip Yancey, Where is God When it Hurts

People try to fix darkness with more darkness instead of looking to the light.

Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. 2 Corinthians 11:14

14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. James 1:14

Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, John 8:12

2 At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. 3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group 4 and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5 In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” 6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. John 8:2-6

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. John 8:6

7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” John 8:7

8 Again he (Jesus) stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. John 8:8-9

10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." John 8:10-11

Our guilt does not repulse Jesus. It was our spiritual sickness that brought him out of heaven not our health.

24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Matthew 5:7

Encountering Jesus has always demanded turning from sin.

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5

When we live by justice, we are demanding of others, when we live by mercy we are forgiving of others.