

Famous Quote:

"How many observe Christ's birthday! How few, his precepts!
O! 'tis easier to keep holidays than commandments."

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



Life is a key theme in John's Gospel; it is used thirty-six times.

What are the essentials for human life? There are at least four: **light** (if the sun went out, everything would die), air, water, and food. Jesus is all of these!

He is the Light of life and the Light of the world.

John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

He is the "Sun of righteousness" (Mal. 4:2).

Malachi 4:2 But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

By His Holy Spirit, He gives us the "breath of life",

John 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

John 20:22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

as well as the Water of life.

John 4:10-14 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

John 7:37-41 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee?

Finally, Jesus is the Living Bread of Life that came down from heaven (John 6:35ff).

John 6:35-38 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

He not only has life and gives life, but He is life (John 14:6).

Light and darkness are recurring themes in John's Gospel.

God is light (1 John 1:5-7 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. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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.)

while Satan is "the power of darkness" (Luke 22:53).

How Did We Live Before Jesus Teresa Greenlee



- 1. Silent night! holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'Round you virgin mother and Child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2. Silent night! holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.
- 3. Silent night! holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.