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NEWS & EVENTS – NOVEMBER 2021

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1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:1-5)

Here's some thoughts I'd like to share about this passage I've called ***The Living Word in a Dying World***. The Word of God lives. The Word of God speaks. The Word of God has personality because it is a Person. The Word preexists everything. The Word has always existed. In the beginning the Word was with God. The Word is not a created entity. The *Word* is the Word of God. It comes *from* God because it *is* God. The Word is the Creative Agent of Creation. Without a Word from God nothing would be and with a Word from God everything can be. There is only one Creator of Life. The Word actively created everything. The Word of God lives. Because the Word lives, everything that lives is because the Word of God gives it life. Life does not just happen. Life is not some accident. Life is given to men from the Giver of Life. God gives life by His Word. If men are to truly live, then the Word of God is the first cause. Men live because the Word of God lives and gives life. Life exists in men where the Word of God lives. When men do not live to glorify God and put the Life of God on display, they never learn how to live. God's Life is manifested in the life of men. The origin of all life is in the Light of the Word of God. We will never learn how to live with God without living in the Light of God. *Let Light Be* is the first command of the Word of God. Light illumined the darkness. Light enabled men to overcome the darkness of the world. The Light of God is purposeful and gives purpose to the lives of men. There was such a man, and his name was John. His life was to be a witness of the Light that was God. He came to testify that life was received when a man would believe. Without the Word of God, a man's life is full of darkness, within and without. A new kind of man is enabled to live. The enlightened man is connected to the True Light. We don't attain to enlightenment by reaching some place of human effort. A human being lives in darkness until Light overcomes the darkness in him. In such a way a man is supposed to be the Light or Lamp of God. An enlightened man will be able to walk the path of his life knowing the perils alongside the path because the Light shows him the way to walk. The Word is the Light that enlightens every man's life if he receives it.

Who wouldn't want a light when his life is shrouded by darkness? There are those who choose to remain in darkness rather than receive the Light. They live in a darkened world unable to live unto God or please Him because they do not receive the knowledge of God. They do not know the Word of God. They remain ignorant of his knowledge. They are disconnected from Him. They will die in that darkness. But when a man receives the Light of the World, when a man receives the Word of God everything changes. Children of men who are destined to die in the darkness can be connected to Life. Connected to Light. They are born into life when they receive Him. Acknowledging their need of Him to live, they are born into Light...born again...born from above. Nothing a man can do will bring on the new birth except believe God's Word can make it so. A man cannot rely on some emotional experience to bring about this change. Only receiving and believing that the Word of God tells the truth about God can cause a man to be born again. The Word of God is Jesus the Christ. King Jesus is the Messiah. Only He has the authority to rule a man's life. We can only know God by the witness of Jesus Christ borne by the Holy Spirit. It is in knowing Him that we are enabled to know God. We realize grace through Jesus Christ. We are given opportunity to escape the sentence of spiritual death. We are granted grace. We realize truth through Jesus Christ. His life testifies of a life connected with God because He is God. He explains what God would be if He lived as a Man. This is the Word becoming flesh. The Word not only created man's world, the Word invaded man's world. When the Word became flesh, this was the hope of humanity. The world has denied the need for the Word of God. But that does not mean that the world doesn't need the Word of God. Denial of Christ ends in death. Receiving Christ brings a man life and light. There is no other substitute for Life. We can't live without the Word of God. The Word of God opens our eyes to see God. When we live with a Christlike worldview, we can live out the new birth. We'll never leave the darkness to come into the Light of the Presence of God without knowing the Christ, the Light of men, the Living Word. Knowing Him is what I'm most thankful for on a daily basis.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Sam