**Journey Into Wholeness “*Seek peace and pursue it” Ps 34:14***

**Session 1: “God and His Enlightened Design”**

***Overview: This session will discuss the nature of God and His enlightened design to create the physical and metaphysical properties of this reality for purposed congruency with the ultimate reality of the unseen eternal realm.***

*“Life can only be understood backwards.”****Søren Kierkegaard – Christian theologian and philosopher***

**To understand the nature of our present reality and how things work, we must understand the ultimate reality – God. We want to understand God’s design and how things work, so our perception and understanding can expand as to how we work in relation to the seen and unseen worlds.**

***“Jesus wants you to connect with reality because inside that reality is truth that will transform you.”* *Kenny Luck – Christian author***

1. **God is Light**

*“This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light.”* ***1 John 1:5***

*“He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen and can see.”* ***1 Timothy 6:15-16***

**God is many things (love, peace, wisdom, knowledge, power…) and He is light. God doesn’t just emit light, He consists of light and “dwells in unapproachable light”. Light is a part of God’s transcendent reality and essence. Light is part of the nature and character of God. Throughout the Old Testament light is regularly associated with God and His word (****Psalm 119:105****), with salvation (****Isaiah 9:2****), with goodness (****Genesis 1:4****), with truth (****Psalm 43:3****), with His commandments (****Proverbs 6:23****), and with life (****Psalm 56:13****). God cannot be seen because He radiates light from His being like a cloak (Psalm 104:2). God’s radiant glory and light emanates all around Him and His throne.**

*“Above the expanse that was over their heads there was something resembling a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance; and on that which resembled a throne, high up, was a figure with the appearance of a man. Then I noticed from the appearance of His waist and upward something like gleaming metal that looked like fire all around within it, and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw something like fire; and there was a radiance around Him. Like the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the surrounding radiance. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell on my face.”* ***Ezekiel 1:26-28***

**God’s “glory” is a term that describes the essence of God’s beauty and majesty as He radiates His light, His holiness, His goodness, His love, and His immeasurable power and authority. God’s plan in creation was that He would create a seen realm congruent with the unseen realm of eternity where He dwells.**

*“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”* ***Habakkuk 2:14***

1. **God creates**

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was a formless and desolate emptiness, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. God saw that the light was good…”* ***Genesis 1:1-4***

**God doesn’t need the sun or secondary lights to illuminate creation. For the first three days of creation God was the light that illuminated creation, not the sun (just as will be in the new heavens and earth – Revelation 22:5). The sun and stars and moon were created on the fourth day.**

*“Then God said, ‘Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and they shall serve as signs and for seasons, and for days and years; and they shall serve as lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth’; and it was so. God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also.”* ***Genesis 1:14-16***

1. **There are two different Hebrew words for “light” in Genesis 1:3 and Genesis 1:14. The Hebrew word “or” in verse 3 means “illumination, enlightenment” and is closely associated in the Bible with life, goodness, truth, prosperity. The Hebrew word “maorot” in verse 14 relates more specifically to “objects that emit light”. God is “or” and the sun, moon and stars are “maorot”.**

**The sun and all other lights are secondary to God’s status as Creator and the originator of light and life. God is primary and He illuminated all of creation before the sun was created. The pagan religions worshipped the sun as the source of all life. Yet, God is the One to be worshipped for He is light and life.**

***Why is this all important?* “Light” is an incredibly important literal and metaphorical concept in the Bible. The light of God is His life, holiness, righteousness, and goodness, which is in contrast to the darkness of evil, death and sin. In the Bible darkness represents everything that is anti-God and anti-light.**

**Darkness also represents that which is chaotic and without order. The earth was formless and empty and dark…there was no organizing principle or order of life. Then, God says, “Let there be light!” Light isn’t created, it is commanded through the sound of His voice…and God declares that only “the light was good” (Genesis 1:4). Light is life, light is reality, light is all-encompassing and transformative.**

**In creation’s primordial state of darkness and disorder, God commands that the creation is illuminated and enlightened with His light. God’s commanded light becomes the organizing principle of creation, bringing order and substance and congruence with Himself who is the ultimate good and light.**

1. **The Electromagnetic Spectrum**

**When God created, He energized the universe and all of creation with His voice, speaking forth light and in that moment the electromagnetic spectrum was created. The reality of light was released into God’s creation and everything was permeated with energy waves, vibration and light frequencies. Science is now catching up with the Bible and revealing many wonderful things about God’s creation and how everything consists of light.**

***What is the “Electromagnetic Spectrum”?* Here is a description given by NASA:** *“The electromagnetic (EM)* *spectrum* *is the range of all types of EM* *radiation**. Radiation is energy that travels and spreads out as it goes – the* *visible light* *that comes from a lamp in your house and the* *radio* *waves that come from a radio station are two types of electromagnetic radiation. The other types of EM radiation that make up the electromagnetic spectrum are* *microwaves**,* *infrared light**,* *ultraviolet light**,* *X-rays* *and* *gamma-rays**.”* (**https://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/science/toolbox/emspectrum1.html**)

**(See NASA video:** **https://science.nasa.gov/ems/01\_intro****)**

**Everything is light and everything is interconnected through light, energy and frequency.**

*“The universe is a living, connected, electrical organism, made up of all the light we can and cannot see…And we are part of that illuminated, eternal, mind-boggling amazingness!”* ***Eileen Day McKusick, Electric Body, Electric Health, page 34***

1. **God created us to be Light-Bearers**

*“Let us make mankind in our image, according to Our likeness.”* ***Genesis 1:26***

**God is Light and the preeminent light-bearer, and He created us to be light-bearers in His image.**

1. **In 2016, researchers at Northwestern University in Chicago were able to capture at the microscopic level the miraculous moment when a sperm fertilizes an egg. The video they released reveals a “flash of light” at the moment of conception. It is remarkable that there is scientific evidence of when life begins at conception with light, by the hand of God. (****https://faithit.com/flash-light-moment-conception-discovered-scientists/****)**

*“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind...This (The Word) was the true Light that enlightens every person coming into the world.”* ***John 1:1-4; 9***

**All of creation exhibits and consists of light, but humanity was created to be intimately related to God as His enlightened heavenly ambassadors/rulers on the earth (Genesis 1:26).**

**God’s plan for man was frustrated when the “Prince of Darkness” deceived Adam and Eve and they fell into darkness to serve the darkened angel.**

1. **Satan’s name “Lucifer” (Isaiah 14:12) in Hebrew ironically means “light bearer”. All the angels and mankind were created to be light-bearers, but through pride and sin, the fallen angles and fallen men have become corrupt beings of darkness…that which is anti-light and a darkened/chaotic manifestation of what God purposed them for.**

**Now, through faith in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World (John 8:12), we have been brought into the Kingdom of Light and we are again purposed to be the light-bearers of the world (Matt 5:14).**

*“Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.”* ***Colossians 1:12-14***

*“You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of night nor of darkness.”* ***1 Thess 5:5***

 *“You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light.”* ***Ephesians 5:8***

**The on-going purpose of this class is centered on helping you to grow and walk as children of light. The *Journey Into Wholeness* is the journey to see our spirit flow more freely and powerfully through our soul and body – becoming instruments of righteousness, truth, life, love and light.**

**Be encouraged! You are a son and daughter of light and the Lord’s grace is available to help you and work in and through you to transform you from glory to greater glory…from light to greater light.**

**Key Thought – What we are studying is immensely important to comprehend because when we widen our perspective on the way God has created the nature of reality and the nature of mankind (“the way things are and the way things work”) we open ourselves up to the fullness of what God has made available to us and the possibilities that exist for growth, advancement and transformation into His image.**

1. **Session Summary**

**A primary part of God’s essence and personal being is light. When God created, He developed the seen world that would be congruent and complimentary with His own being and the eternal realm of light. God infused light into creation and he also created mankind in His image to be representatives of light. The fall of man frustrated God’s purpose for mankind, but through Jesus Christ we are brought back into right relationship with the Father of Lights and we are able to become what God intended – His beloved children of light. Now we are challenged to grow in light and become the light-bearers He intended for each of us.**