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## **Episode 129 – Ages 2**

2026-05-20

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Hey friend — Scott Stanley here with DTG Ministries. In this episode, we walk through John 1 and trace how the Son has been bringing God's light through the ages, why many don't recognize it, and how each era was shaped by those who received or rejected that light.

We'll touch on John the Baptist, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, the prophets, Revelation 17, and the idea of seven groupings of apostasy — all to help you see how Christ's work threads through history and invites us to live in love.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to the KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, I'm Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries. Today we're going to continue our podcast concerning John chapter 1, looking at the work of Messiah and the fact that all ages were prepared through him using the Word of God. He was in the world, and this word "world" is an arrangement. He was in the world, but the world didn't know him.

Now, what I want to share today is very involved, and I think if you don't have a Bible, it might be hard to follow where I'm getting the information and how I'm putting this together. It's actually pretty intimidating to see what God is revealing, and today,

continuing the John 1 theme, but looking at the ages that Christ prepared. So to do this, I want to begin with John 1. I want to read just a couple of verses and put some thoughts in your mind, get you thinking about this. In John 1, speaking of John the Baptist, verse 6,

Jhn 1:6 He came to be a man sent from God, whose name was John.

Jhn 1:7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

Jhn 1:8 He was not the Light, but he was sent to bear witness of the Light.

Now, here's something we probably don't even need to point out: The fact that God is light (1 John 1:5). *God is light*. Now verse 8.

Jhn 1:8 John the Baptist was not the Light. He was sent to bear witness of that Light.

Jhn 1:9 The true Light, which lighteth every man that comes into the world.

For me, when I read that, it's like God is Light, and we're talking about the Son of God who brings the light of God to every man that comes into the world. So it's interesting. Verse 10.

Jhn 1:10 He was in the world (or in this arrangement of things), and the world had come to be through him, and the world didn't know him.

Well, if the world doesn't know him, how is it he lights every man that comes into the world? If you're like I am, when you read these things, you take them so literally and concretely. He brings the knowledge of God to every man that comes into the world, but he was in the world, and the world had come to be through him, and the world didn't know him. He came into his own arrangement of things, and his own people did not receive him. Those who do receive him, he gives them authority to become children of God (Jhn 1:12).

To say "*he lighteth, he lights,*" see, that's a verb. He's bringing the knowledge of God to every man that comes into the world. But he's in the world, and they don't even know; they don't recognize him. If he lights every man, how come they didn't see it? Well,

there's a question basically asked like that in John chapter 14. I want you to turn to John 14, starting at verse 21.

Jhn 14:21 He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and I will manifest myself to him.

Jhn 14:22 Judas said unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that you'll manifest yourself to us, and not unto the world?

Jhn 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Jhn 14:24 He that loves me not keeps not my sayings: and the word which you hear is not mine, it's the Father's which sent me.

What are you talking about? How are you going to manifest yourself to us and not to the world? He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He lights every man that comes into the world, but he comes into the world, and they don't know who he is. Well, how are you going to manifest yourself to us and not to them? I don't get it.

Here's how it works. This is what we need to get a good handle on this. If a person decides they want to walk in love, hence if you decide you want to keep God's commandments, if you want to show love for God, you're going to show love for others. This is what he is commanding us to do: to love each other. If you're going to do that... first of all, why do you want to do it? Second, how are you going to do it? If you're making a decision that you want to keep the commandments of God, you must believe in God, and you're going to learn that he is love. He wants you to walk in love.

So you're making a decision to walk in love. How are you going to do that? Well, you're going to turn to him. "Father, how do I walk in love?" He will then send the message through another person to help you understand what you cannot see. You do not have the wisdom, in your own wisdom, to understand the wisdom of God. So someone is going to have to come and tell you. *We preach Christ, wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which God ordained from the foundation of the world to your glory, your character, so you can walk in love* (1Co 2:7).

A person will share with you what the truth is, and in that truth is the Father and the Son. They are in the truth. God sends you somebody to speak the truth. The Father and Son are in that truth, showing you how to walk in love. If somebody explains the cross, you're being taught of the Son and the Father's understanding of humanity. The Father and Son will both be there. And they will come to you.

Well, what about the guy who doesn't want to walk in love? Well, they won't come to him in the truth because he is not seeking that truth. And if he does come to them in that truth, we'll get to that in a second. But to show you my point, I want to read from Jude in this prophecy of Enoch. In Jude, verse 14,

Jud 1:14 Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied to people like this (Like who? Like Cain... they were in the mindset of Cain) ... prophesied to these people, and he said, Behold, the Lord did come in saintly myriads of truth.

Now, again, this is something we've talked about recently, in a recent podcast. See, the Lord came in that truth to do judgment, to convince people, to help them see judgment is a good thing, to give them his truth. The Lord did come in saintly myriads. Well, this is before the flood that he's talking about.

So how are you going to come to us and manifest yourself to us, but not to the world? Because if you want to keep the commandments, you'll receive the truth of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. They're not going to receive it. They don't want to know the truth. And here is the problem. Gospel of John chapter 3. Let's just start at verse 16.

Jhn 3:16 For God so loved the world, he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Jhn 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world; but the world through him might be saved. (How? By having the Light.)

Jhn 3:18 He that believes on him is not condemned: but he that believes not is already condemned (in his own heart), because he hasn't believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Again, do you think this concept is only played out after Jesus was born in Bethlehem? See, look at Enoch's prophecy. The Lord did come in saintly myriads. Verse 19.

Jhn 3:19 This is the condemnation (now, here it is), that light is come into the world, and men love their darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil.

Jhn 3:20 Every one that does evil hates the light. They won't come to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

Jhn 3:21 But he that will do the truth (he's wanting to walk in love) ... He that does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, so that they're wrought in God.

I put "so that they're wrought in God." That's a big "so" right there. What are we saying? Just like John says, *John is not the Light. He came to bear witness of the Light. It lights every man that comes into the world.* Every man will make a decision whether they want to walk in love or not. The ones who do will recognize the truth. So here he is. He's in the world. The world's made by him, but the world doesn't know him. He came to his own arrangement, his own era, his own age that he had prepared, but his own people didn't receive him.

Now, here is the point of all of this. Every age has been prepared by the Son of God. If the Son of God is manifesting himself, there is only life in him when you realize he has a Father. His Father is the one who brought him forth. So I can go all the way back to Genesis 4 and see where men began to preach in the name of the Lord. I have to understand, it was the Son of God, Michael, who had revealed whatever truth they had; it was revealed through him. There's only one mediator. It's the Son of God (1Ti 2:5). It's always been the Son of God, the head messenger.

So people were told truth. To what extent, we don't know. But he lights every man that comes into the world. Those who don't want it stay in darkness. You know, I've often thought reading these verses, and I look at the literal world, and you have the S-U-N shining down on every person on the planet. We know the S-U-N is a type of the S-O-N. It is shining on everybody. The only way you're not going to see the sun is if you're blind.

God can put someone in your life to help eliminate and heal you of that blindness so you can see the Son. If you can see the Son, that's only a step in understanding the love of God. What is that? That's the light. God is light... *the Son lighteth.* He brings light. *He*

*lighteth every man that comes into the world.* The wicked don't want to see it, so they will remain in darkness and blindness.

Now, I know what I'm saying right now goes mega much deeper than where I've taken it because I wanted to key on these eras of time, these ages of time, each age. When I thought about it and prayed about it, I realized Revelation 17 is keying on the ages of time. What is interesting about Revelation 17, if you haven't heard that podcast, you could go back and get an idea of where I'm going with this. But I've seen things that I didn't know when I made that initial podcast.

What you're seeing in Revelation 17 is seven times there was apostasy in the world. You're going to see seven kings, what God refers to as kings, as a picture of those who received the light Christ was sharing. So what are the heads of the beast? Let me read this to you real quick. We're going to be skipping around the Bible, but look at this in Revelation 17, verse 1.

Rev 17:1 There came one of the seven messengers which had the seven vials, and he talked with me, and he said, Come here. I'm going to show unto you the judgment of the whore that sits upon water:

Rev 17:2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

Rev 17:3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: (and I didn't see a whore on water) I saw a woman on a scarlet coloured beast...

Now, the significance of that is because in Revelation 19:11, you see, *"Behold a white horse... I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse."* Well, the white horse in Zechariah 10 is Zion. Zion is the horse. Well, what does it mean that the Son of God, Jesus, is on the horse? He is the truth in the mind of the church. Here's a white horse. Jesus is on the horse. Well, if the church is the horse, Jesus being on the horse, he's in the mind. They have decided to walk in love, and the Father and the Son have come to them in the truth.

But what you're seeing in chapter 17 is a whore on a beast. The beast is the people. The beast is not a computer in Belgium. The beast is not the government. The beast represents the people who apostatized. These are not the people in the world who

never believed. It's the people who believed in God, like Cain, and refused to receive the truth of the sin offering. The beast is the people. Look at this again, verse 3.

Rev 17:3 He carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast. The beast has character, characters of blasphemy...

Look at verse 15.

Rev 17:15 ... The waters which you saw, where that whore is sitting, they're people, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

This is not simply the people of the world who never go to church. These are the people who went into apostasy. When Jesus gives his message and ascends and goes back to heaven, well, an apostasy begins. We see in 1 John 2:18, there's an apostasy. All of these people believed in God. They believed Jesus was the Christ. They believe he died and rose and appeared. They believed that. But they rejected what the apostles were teaching about it. Hence, they became a head on the beast. Not Pilate. Not the people who totally reject God.

These are the people who believe in God and are rejecting the truth. This is what the beast is. That's why people can't see it, because it's them. So let me show you this one more time in Revelation 17, verse 1.

Rev 17:1 ... I'm going to show you the judgment of the whore that sits upon the people. (The whore is the thought. It's the understanding.)

Rev 17:2 The kings of the earth committed fornication (with this whore.)

The kings of the earth are seen in Daniel 7: The lion, the bear, and the leopard, and they're all into literalism, eating much flesh. Their God is Satan. They reject the truth about God. They want to believe, but they're rejecting the truth. Verse 2 again,

Rev 17:2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the doctrines of this fornication (of literalness).

Ask them all, who's the bride of Christ? They'll say, "Oh, the church is the bride." But they're committing fornication with the lion, the bear, and the leopard... the kings of the earth, not the heavens, the earth. They're committing fornication in the whole world. What world? Well, those who dwell on the earth. They're drunk with the wine, the doctrines coming from that.

So we see, I hope I've been able to set this up in such a way that we can understand this. We begin to see the eras of time. According to Revelation 17, there are seven heads of the beast, or there are seven groupings of apostasy... seven groupings of apostasy. So we see in Genesis 4:26, *men began to preach on the name of the Lord*. Go to Genesis 6:5: *God saw the wickedness of man. Every imagination of their thoughts, of their heart, was only evil continually*. Yet in between these two verses, you've got a guy like Enoch.

So we see a principle played out here. Who began the age? The Son of God. He's bringing light to every man. But... *the darkness comprehended it not*. There were people who didn't want it. Well, there were people who did. But there were more people who may have bought into it and decided it wasn't for them. And they decided to do what? Well, like he says in Genesis 6:4,

Gen 6:4 There were giants in the earth in those days; also, after that (after there were giants), when the sons of God came unto the daughters of men, they bore children, and these giants became men of renown to these children (to these people whose parents were not exactly walking right with God).

And again, it's the same thing happening today. "The giants of the earth" is not literal. It's the celebrities of the earth, whether it's sports or movies, you know, whatever it is. People are more interested in the giants of the earth than they are in Christ. But the message was given, and man began to preach in the name of the Lord, and lo and behold, you've got a guy like Enoch who's walking with God, and God takes him, showing you that it was possible to walk with God, but showing you men's hearts changed... and you now have an apostasy.

It is so bad that the world will be destroyed by a flood. But one guy was saved out of that, and it was Noah. He found grace with God. So here we have two kings. The first

king is pre-flood, the believers before the flood. And you have the first head of the beast, those who went into apostasy.

The second grouping of kings represents Noah and those who believed with him and trusted God. But we see they go into apostasy, and you see the Tower of Babel being built, and you see Nimrod. See, all of these people that you're seeing there were descendants of those who came off the boat. Some went into apostasy.

*How are you going to manifest yourself to us and not to them? Well, if you want to walk in love, we'll come to you in the truth. If you don't want to do that, then you're never going to see it. He was in the world. The world was made by him, and they didn't know it. John came to bear witness of this Light, who lighteth, who gives light, the knowledge of God, to everyone who comes... But the darkness doesn't want it. They don't comprehend it, and here's the condemnation: Light came, but they turned from it. They loved their darkness more than the light.*

Again, this is happening in every age of time. God calls out Abraham. He is the third grouping of kings, those who believed him. But you remember what the Lord told him in Genesis 15, starting at verse 12.

Gen 15:12 When the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram; and, lo, a horror of a great darkness fell upon him.

Gen 15:13 And he said, Abram, Know of a surety that your seed shall be a stranger in a land that's not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

Gen 15:14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: afterward they shall come out with great substance.

He's talking about Egypt. He is showing you the next apostasy. The people who were in Egypt were in apostasy. One way I know is because when he told Moses, "Let's go deliver them out," Moses said, "Who are you? Who am I going to tell them is sending me?" He didn't even know. How could that happen? Because Abraham, in the grouping of the kings, the people who were believing Abraham and walked with Abraham entered into darkness. They were not receiving the light.

So, because he's telling you about Egypt, we see the next king, Moses. Moses represents the next grouping of believers. It isn't one person. It's those who believed. Who formed that age? Who is the guy who prepared that age? The Son of God, according to Hebrews 11 and Hebrews chapter 1.

So we know, and just to make this short, the next apostasy that takes place, see, you've got Moses and the giving of the law, and you could call that the age of the law. I haven't really taken the time to search all of that out, but that puts in our mind the age of time we're talking about. Well, the next apostasy, that is so bad... I know they were in and out of apostasy, but those who believed, you finally come to a place where they're all carried off into Babylon, and that represents the next head of the beast.

From Babylon, they come out of Babylon. And if you'll remember the prophecy given about Cyrus in Isaiah 45, Cyrus was a type of Christ. You could say this was the beginning of the next age. The believers: Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah. See, these guys came out, and Cyrus gave the decree: They could go back and build the temple.

So you've got those believers, those representing the fifth set of kings, the fifth grouping of kings. What was the next apostasy? It was the time of Christ. And this is what I want you to see. Christ's coming was not the beginning of an age. The age began with the building of the temple and Zerubbabel, and those things going on. When did it end? Hebrews 9:26.

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the age, he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Christ's death was the end of the age. The age began with Zerubbabel. The age began with leaving Babylon. See, leaving Babylon, that was the end of an age and the beginning of an age. But by the time you get to Christ, the people of God have formed another head of the beast. By the time you come to Jesus, you have the time of Rome. The beast isn't Rome! It's the people of God who are in apostasy. Jesus' death ends that age (Hebrews 9:26), starting a new age. Well, the new age begins with the apostles.

I think I am going to stop this podcast right here. And we will pick up here for our next podcast because it's the next one that involves our lifetime and what is going on.

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, thank you for helping us. Thank you for your glory, your promise of your glory. Father, may we take this seriously and learn what it means to worship you in spirit and in truth. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.