

# Epistle 56

by George Fox

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of heeding the light within us, which is the light of Christ and God, to renew our minds and turn to God.*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 8:7, Luke 15:8, John 17:12, Acts 7:52, Romans 12:2, Ephesians 2:2, Philippians 3:18, Colossians 3:2, Colossians 3:10, James 3:17

**Topics:** "Inner Light", "Spiritual Renewal"

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## Description

George Fox preaches about the importance of heeding the light of Christ within, which calls our minds away from worldly lusts and evil desires, and towards God for renewal and worship. Those who reject this light are enemies of Christ, influenced by the devil, and betrayers of the just. By focusing on the pure light of God, our minds are turned away from earthly affections and towards heavenly wisdom, leading to eternal life and peace.

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## Transcript

All friends of the Lord every where, whose minds are turned within towards the Lord, take heed and hearken to the light within you, which is the light of Christ and of God, which will call your minds to within, (as ye heed it,) which were abroad in the creatures; that by it your minds may be renewed [Rom 12:2], and by it turned to God, with that which is pure to worship the living God, the Lord of hosts, over all the creatures. That which calls your minds out of the lusts of the world, will call them out of the evil affections and desires, and turn you from them, and set your affections above [Col 3:2].

And the same which calls your minds out from the world's teachers, and the creatures, and to have your minds renewed, there your obedience is to be known and found; and there the image of God is renewed [Col 3:10], and ye come to grow up into it. That which calls your minds out of the earth, turns them towards God, where the pure babe is born in the virgin mind [Isa 7:14]; and the babe's food is known, and the children's bread witnessed, which comes from the living God, which nourisheth up to eternal life.

Which babes and children receive their heavenly wisdom from above [James 3:17], from the pure, living God, and not from the earthly one; for that is trodden under foot with such. And all who hate this light, whose minds are abroad in the creatures, and in the image of the devil, they may get the saints' words, (who received their wisdom from above,) in their old nature and corruptible mind; but such are murderers of the just [Acts 7:52], enemies to the cross of Christ [Phil 3:18], in whom the prince of the air [Eph 2:2] lodgeth, sons of perdition, betrayers of Christ [John 17:12].

Therefore take heed to the light, which is oppressed with that nature; which light shall condemn (as it ariseth) all that evil nature, and shut it out, and turn it out of the house. And so ye will come to see the candle lighted, the house sweeping and swept, and then afterward the pure treasure will be found [Luke 15:8]; and then the name of the eternal God will be exalted. And the same light that calls your minds, which were abroad, out of the world, the same turns them to God, the Father of light.

Here the pure mind is known, and the pure God is waited upon for wisdom from above; and the pure God is served night and day, and the peace which hath no end [Isa 8:7] is enjoyed. For ye may have openings; but your minds going into the lusts of the flesh, here the affections are not mortified. Therefore, hearken to that, and take heed to that which calls your minds out of the vile affections [Rom 1:26], and the world's lusts, to have them renewed; the same will turn your minds to God, the same light will set your affections above, and bring you to wait for the pure wisdom from, God from on high, that it may be justified.

Wait all in that which calls your minds inward, and turns them to God; and here is the cross witnessed, that the mind shall feed upon nothing but the pure light of God, and on the living food which comes from the living God.

So, the Lord God Almighty be with you all, and keep you all in his strength and power to his glory, over all the world, whose minds are called out of it, and turned to God, to worship the creator, and serve him, and not the creature [Rom 1:25]. And the light of God, that calls your minds out of the creatures, turns them to God, to an endless being, joy, and peace. Here is a seeing God always present, who is not known to the world, whose minds are in the creatures, whose knowledge is in the flesh, and whose minds are not renewed. Therefore to you, whose minds are called out of the creatures, and out of the world and fading things, by the eternal light of God, the same eternal light which hath turned it and presented it to God, will bring you to see all these things, and those whose minds are abroad in the creatures; and so, judgment will be given upon that, and them who hate the light.

And, friends mind the seed of God, and dwell in it, which will bring you to reign over the world; and dwell in the power of the Lord, which will keep you clear in your understanding; that the seed of God may reign in you all, which is but one in all, which is Christ in the male and in the female [Gal 3:28], which seed the promise is to. Wait upon the Lord, to feel the just to reign over the unjust, and the seed of God to reign over the seed of the serpent [Gen 3:15], and to be the head, that all which is mortal, may die; for out of that will rise presumption. So fare ye well! And God Almighty bless, guide, and keep you all in his wisdom.

G. F.

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