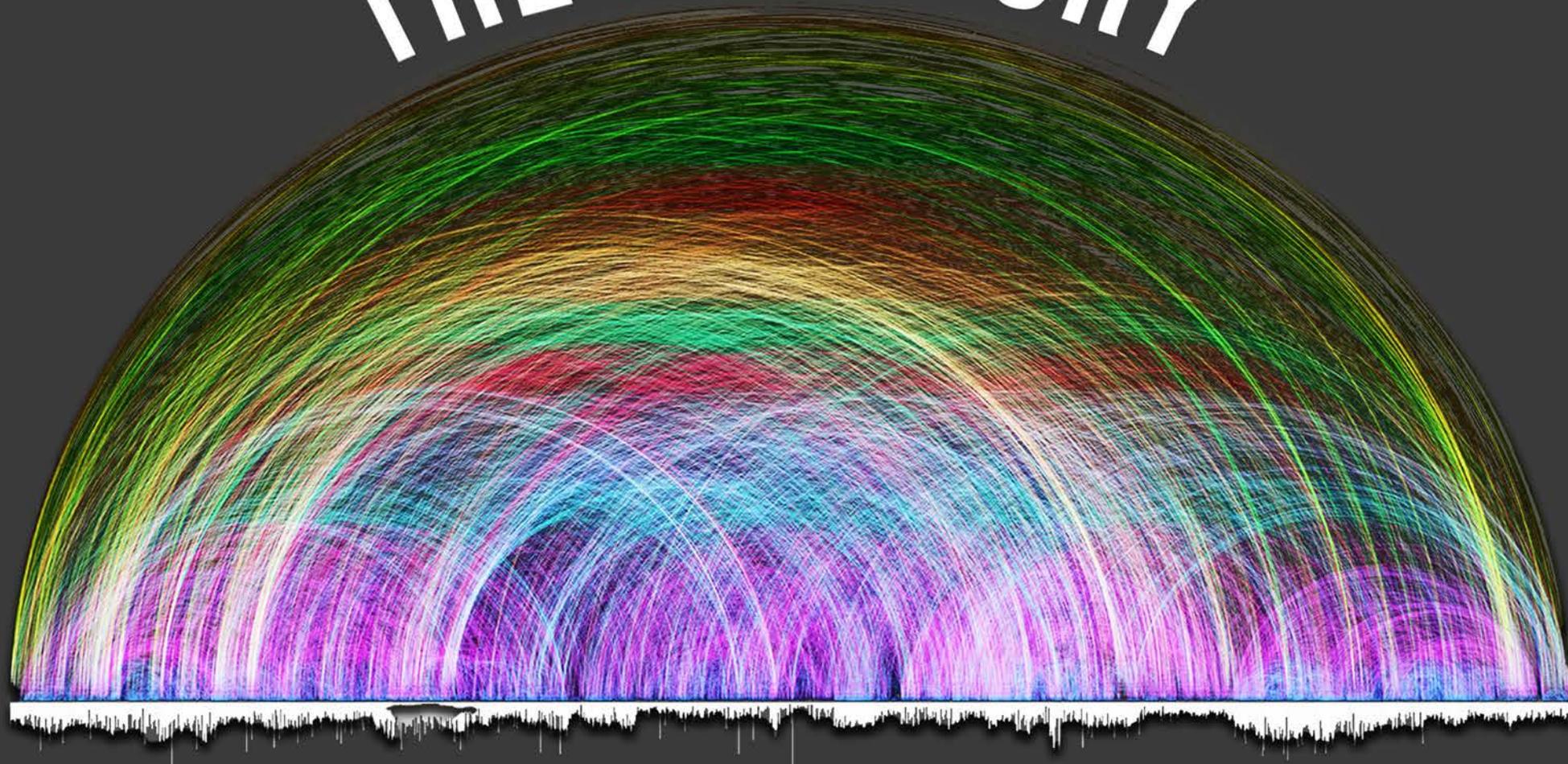


THE BIG STORY



LET THERE BE: A STORY OF LIGHT

THE BIG STORY

1. First Light

1 John 1:5
Genesis 1–2

LET THERE BE: A STORY OF LIGHT

THE BIG STORY

1 John 1:5

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

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In the Bible, light represents the glory of God's infinite perfections displayed and enjoyed through Jesus Christ.

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Genesis 1:1–5

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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THE BIG STORY

2. Into the Dark

Ephesians 4:18

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Ephesians 4:18

They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

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Genesis 3:1–7

¹ Now the serpent... said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’? ⁴ ... You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

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Isaiah 5:20–21

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

²¹ Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes!

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Isaiah 10:17

The light of Israel will become a fire, and his Holy One a flame, and it will burn and devour his thorns and briers in one day.

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3. The Lighthouse

Exodus 40:34–38

1 Kings 8:10

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Exodus 3:2–5

² The angel of LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed... ⁴ God called to him out of the bush... ⁵ “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”

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Psalm 78:14

In the daytime he led them with a cloud,
and all the night with a fiery light.

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Exodus 24:17

Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

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Numbers 6:24–26

²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

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4. A Long Night

Isaiah 42:19–20

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Isaiah 42:19–20

¹⁹ “Who is blind but my servant? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰ He sees many things, but does not observe them.”

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THE BIG STORY

Judges 21:25

In those days there was no king in Israel.
Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

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5. The Rising Sun

John 1:1–18

Hebrews 1:3

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John 1:1–10

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him...

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John 1:14–18

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

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Hebrews 1:3

He is the radiance of the glory of God.

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Matthew 4:16

The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light...
on them a light has dawned.

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John 9:39–41

³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

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6. Unveiled Faces

2 Corinthians 3:18

2 Corinthians 4:6

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2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

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7. City of Light

Isaiah 60:19

Revelation 21:22–23

Revelation 22:4–5

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Isaiah 60:19

The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

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Revelation 21:22–23

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

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Revelation 22:4–5

⁴ They will see his face... ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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Psalm 67:1–2

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, ² that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

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Matthew 5:14–16

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand,
and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light
shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give
glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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Walking in the Light

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Walking in the Light

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3. Keep your mind exposed to the light of God's word (2 Pet 1:19–21)

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4. Keep your heart ready to confess sin and be cleansed (1 John 1:5–10)
5. Keep your methods free of cunning and manipulation (2 Cor 4:2)

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6. Keep your soul open to love and serve other people (1 Jn 2:7-11; 4:20-21)

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7. Keep your relationships deep and open (2 Cor 6:11–12)

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9. Keep your life devoted to impartial justice (Isa 5:20–21)

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8. Keep your witness flowing with clarity and courage (Ps 67:1–3)
9. Keep your life devoted to impartial justice (Isa 5:20–21)
10. Keep your hope fixed on the eternal city (Rev 22:1–5)

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