**Traffic Lights Of God**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday September 6th, 2020

Text: II John 9-11

### Intro

1. Traffic lights are a common sight at intersections today and are there to direct traffic.
	1. First introduced in London on Dec. 10, 1868 as a manual system invented by J. P. Knight, a railway engineer. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traffic_lights>)
	2. Modern electric lights were invented by Lester Wire, a policeman, in Salt Lake City, UT in 1912 and revolutionized the flow of traffic.
	3. They are there for our good and must be obeyed!
	4. The colors red (Stop), yellow (Caution), and green (Go) are meant for our protection and mean much to us as we drive.
2. II John 9-11
	1. More important than the flow of traffic are God’s traffic lights!
	2. His colors of red, yellow, and green are given for our own good and must be obeyed!
	3. Red: Don’t go “too far” and “not abide in teaching of Christ” or you do “not have God.”
	4. Yellow: Be careful that you don’t “participate” (share) in another’s sin.
	5. Green: Abide “in the teaching” of Christ to have “both the Father and the Son.”
3. We must watch for and obey the traffic lights of God!

#### God’s Red Lights

* 1. God has instructed man through His inspired word where to STOP!
		1. Stop – Committing sin/practicing lawlessness!
			1. I John 3:4:Lawlessness is sin! (Mt. 7:21-23: Won’t inherit Heaven)
			2. Col. 3:5-10: The saint is to stop certain practices that amount to idolatry! (James 4:1-4: Coveting can lead to murder!)
		2. Stop – Causing stumbling blocks/division!
			1. Rom. 14:21 (NKJ): We must be careful not to offend the weak in the faith and cause them to sin or we sin (I Cor. 8:12).
			2. Mt. 18:7: Jesus acknowledged offenses would come but says, “Woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes.” *Don’t be one!*
			3. I Cor. 1:10; 12:22-25: Paul exhorted the Corinthian saints to “all agree and that there be no divisions among you” & “no division in the body.”
		3. Stop – Perverting the gospel (false teachers)!
			1. Gal. 1:6-8: Those who cause trouble and “distort” the gospel with false doctrines need to stop!
			2. II Pet. 2:1-3: There will be some who teach “with false words” and will lead many astray, maligning the truth, but will be judged in the end.
		4. Stop – Going beyond God’s Word!
			1. II Jn. 9: The one who does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God!
			2. II Tim. 4:3-4: Some people will fall away from the faith, no longer wanting to hear “sound doctrine” but will listen to those who teach what they want to hear!
	2. There are serious consequences for violating God’s RED LIGHTS! (Eternal Punishment)

#### God’s Yellow Lights

* 1. God has CAUTIONED man about many things!
		1. Caution – To not follow after just any way!
			1. Prov. 14:12: The way that “seems right” may lead to death!
			2. Mt. 7:13-14: Two roads, two different destinations – Need to make sure we are on the right road!
		2. Caution – To do His will!
			1. Mt. 7:21: The one who does the will of God lives forever.
			2. Heb. 5:9: Jesus saves those who obey Him!
		3. Caution – To “test the spirits!” (Study)
			1. I Jn. 4:1: We are to prove what he hear to make sure it is from God’s word, and not the word of a false teacher! *(II Tim. 2:15)*
			2. Eph. 4:14-16: In order to not be deceived and carried away “by every wind of doctrine” we need to “grow” in God’s word *(II Pet. 3:18).*
		4. Caution – To take heed lest we fall!
			1. I Cor. 10:12: The examples of Israel are there to remind us that when we think we stand, we need to be careful lest we fall!
			2. Rom. 11:22: God promises “severity,” and “goodness;” “goodness to those who “continue” in God’s goodness.
			3. II Jn. 10-11: We are to be careful not to share in someone else’s sin!
		5. Caution – To be prepared for Christ’s 2nd Coming!
			1. Mt. 25:13 (NKJ): We are to be watchful since we don’t know the hour!
			2. II Pet. 3:10-12: We are warned of its inevitability, and told to watch for it with godly and holy conduct! *(II Thess. 1:7-9)*
	2. God’s yellow lights direct us away from eternal punishment and to eternal life! (Reward)

#### God’s Green Lights

* 1. God’s order to GO is open to all!
		1. Go – Obey the Gospel!
			1. Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, Be Baptized, and Obey! *( Rom. 10:17; Jn. 3:16; Lk. 13:3; Rom. 10:9; Acts 22:16; Jn. 8:31)*
		2. Go – Teach the gospel to others!
			1. Acts 8:4 *(Mt. 28:19-20; Rom. 1:16):* We are to preach everywhere we go
			2. I Pet. 3:15: Take the opportunities where they arise to teach the gospel!
		3. Go – Abide in the doctrine of Christ!
			1. II Jn. 9: Must abide in the “teaching of Christ” to have God!
			2. Jn. 8:31: To be disciples of Christ we must “continue” in His word!
		4. Go – Grow (mature) in Christ!
			1. Heb. 6:1 (NKJ): By practice, knowing how to discern good from evil (Heb. 5:14), we are to “go on to perfection.”
			2. *II Tim. 2:15; II Pet. 3:18:* We are to study to grow!
		5. Go – Be with the Lord!
			1. Phil. 1:23: To depart and be with the Lord is not only “much better” it is the goal of every Christian!
			2. I Thess. 4:17: We will “always be with the Lord!”
	2. Following God’s green lights leads to an eternal home with God! (Eternal Life)

## Conclusion

1. There are many other red, yellow, and green lights found in God’s word; these are just a few.
2. As saints, we need to know what things to stop, when to use caution, and to do the things God has instructed us to do!
	1. *II Tim. 2:15:* We can know God’s traffic lights through study!
3. Obedience to the traffic lights of God will result in our eternal salvation with Him!
4. If you are not a Christian (Red), you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name! (Green)
5. If a Christian in error (Red), don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent! (Green)
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!