

Series: Christmas Promised

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

Main Idea: A child will be born who will dispel the darkness.

Title/Hook: Christmas Lights, ON!

Date: December 18th, 2022

Purpose: To teach Christians and Non-Christians that only Jesus can save us from the darkness of our sin and the death it deserves and this brings us great joy and eternal hope.

FCF/COR: Our sin and rebellion against God thrusts us into spiritual gloom and darkness, exiled from God, unable to rescue ourselves. The Lord will have to do it.

Christ Trajectory: Matthew 4:12-17, Luke 1:79, John 8:12

Apologetic: What is true peace? Why has mankind never been able to secure it?

Structure: Inductive

Main Idea:

Subject: What is the hope for God's people who walk in gloom and darkness?

Complement: Light has shone through the child who is born, He is the prince of peace, who will set the people free and bring them joy.

Exegetical Idea: The hope for God's people who walk in gloom and darkness is the light from the child who was born, the prince of peace, who will set the people free and bring them joy.

Theological Idea: Because of our sin we walk in gloom and darkness, but light, joy, freedom, and peace are found in the Son that was given.

Homiletical/Main Idea: A child will be born who will dispel the darkness.

Outline:

Genesis 1:1-4 - 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.

2 Corinthians 4:6 - 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.

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

1. Sin leads to gloom, anguish, and spiritual darkness (vv. 1a, 2a, 2c)

Isaiah 1:2-4 - Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken: “Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master’s crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.” Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.

Isaiah 8:5-8 - ⁵ The Lord spoke to me again: ⁶ “Because this people has refused the waters of Shiloah that flow gently, and rejoice over Rezin and the son of Remaliah, ⁷ therefore, behold, the Lord is bringing up against them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory. And it will rise over all its channels and go over all its banks, ⁸ and it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass on, reaching even to the neck, and its outspread wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel.”

Isaiah 8:22 - ²² And they will look to the earth, but behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish. And they will be thrust into thick darkness.

Isaiah 2:5 - O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Romans 1:18-21 - ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

2. Only the Lord can bring us light, joy, and peace. (vv. 2b, 2d, 3-7)

Luke 1:78-2:7 - ⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” ⁸⁰ And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel. **2** ¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Matthew 4:12-17 - ¹² Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

John 8:12 - ¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

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Judges 7:2 - ² The Lord said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’”

Isaiah 9:7 - The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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Quote – Ray Ortlund Jr. – “Look at Jesus. As the Wonderful Counselor, he has the best ideas and strategies. Let’s follow him. As the Mighty God, he defeats his enemies easily. Let’s hide behind him. As the Everlasting Father, he loves us endlessly. Let’s enjoy him. As the Prince of Peace, he reconciles us while we are still his enemies. Let’s welcome his dominion.”

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