



# PROMISE KEEPER

*Beyond the shadows*

## Sermon Summary:

This Christmas sermon explores the profound meaning of Christ's birth as the fulfillment of God's eternal promises to His people. Pastor Marcus Anthony Rigsby emphasizes that Christmas is not merely about tradition or celebration, but about recognizing God as a faithful promise keeper who brings light into our darkest valleys. The message traces God's covenant faithfulness from Abraham through David to the birth of Jesus, demonstrating that even after 400 years of silence, God remained committed to His people. The sermon challenges believers to activate God's promises through repentance, faith, and the power of the Holy Spirit, reminding them that the same power that brought Jesus into the world is available to transform their circumstances today. The pastor

emphasizes that while we may face valleys and shadows, God's light penetrates darkness, bringing hope, gladness, and ultimate victory.

#### Key Points:

- Christmas celebrates God's faithfulness as a promise keeper, not just a historical event
- God's relationship with His children is enduring and faithful, not momentary or conventional
- The valleys and dark places in our lives are opportunities for God to demonstrate His power
- We cannot fight spiritual battles with our own strength, money, or human resources
- The Holy Spirit is the activated promise that brings power into believers' lives
- Testimony requires testing; we cannot speak of God's goodness without experiencing trials
- God shines light in darkness and brings gladness in the midst of oppression
- The rod of Moses represents God's authority and power, now manifested as the Holy Spirit within believers
- Waiting on God requires faith and praise before seeing the manifestation
- Believers must actively witness and bring others to Christ as time is running short

#### Scripture Reference:

- Isaiah 9:1-7 (primary focus: "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light... For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given")
- Matthew (parallel passage to Isaiah's prophecy)
- Psalm 23 (valley of the shadow of death)

- Acts 2:39 (promise to believers and their children)
- Exodus (Moses' rod and God's power)
- 2 Samuel 6:14 (David dancing before the Lord)
- Philippians 4:6 (be anxious for nothing, pray with thanksgiving)