JESUS . . .

ISAIAH 9:2

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

ISAIAH 50:10

10 Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

MATTHEW 27:45

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

PSALM 88:10

10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah.





RHYTHMS OF WINTER

NAVIGATING LIFE'S DARKEST SEASONS

Pastor Cary Schmidt | Sunday, January 24, 2021

PSALM 88

1 O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee: 2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry; 3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave. 4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength: 5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand. 6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps. 7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves. Selah. 8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come forth. 9 Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee. 10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah. 11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction? 12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? 13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee. 14 LORD, why castest thou off my soul? why hidest thou thy face from me? 15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am distracted. 16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off. 17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together. 18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1, 10-11

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven 10 I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. 11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

1.	—THE ABSENCE OF LIGHT
	PSALM 88:12 12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
	PSALM 88:16–18 16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off. 17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together. 18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.
2.	—ABSENCE OF GOD
	PSALM 88:3–7 3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave. 4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength: 5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand. 6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps. 7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves. Selah.
3.	—ABSENCE OF FRIENDS

	PSALM 88:8
	8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me ar abomination unto them
	PSALM 88:18
	18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.
4.	—ABSENCE OF VITALITY
	PSALM 88:8-9
	8 I am shut up, and I cannot come forth. 9 Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.
5.	—ABSENCE OF EXPECTATION
	PSALM 88:10-11
	10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah. 11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction?
	PSALM 88:15
	15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up: while I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.