



The Light of Christmas

Christmas Eve 2020

Pastor Jeremy McGarity

"Jesus said, I have come as a Light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in darkness."

JOHN 12:46 | LB

I. Darkness is Common These Days

- Dark days of disappointment

"I hoped for happiness and light, but trouble and darkness came instead."

JOB 30:26 | GN

- Dark days of distress

"I have cried desperately for help, but still it does not come."

PSALM 22:1 | GN

- Dark days of doubt

"Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going."

JOHN 12:35 | NIV

- Dark days of depression

"The thought of my pain ... is bitter poison. I think of it constantly, and my spirit is depressed."

LAMENTATIONS 3:19-20 | GN

The Solution to the Darkness

"You, Lord, are my light; you dispel my darkness!"

2 SAMUEL 22:29 | GN

II. How Can Jesus Dispel My Darkness?

1. He will encourage me when I'm disappointed.

"The Lord is near to those who are discouraged; he sees those who have lost all hope."

PSALM 34:18 | GN

2. He will strengthen me when I'm distressed.

"I have the strength for all things in Christ who empowers me - I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13 | AMPC

"Even though I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me ..."

PSALM 23:4 | GN

3. He will guide me when I'm doubtful.

"Jesus said, I am the Light of the world. So if you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, for living light will flood your path."

JOHN 8:12 | LB

"Your words are a flashlight to light the path ahead of me and keep me from stumbling."

PSALM 119:105 | LB

4. He will change me when I'm depressed.

"It is possible for light to turn the thing it shines upon into light also!"

EPHESIANS 5:13 | PH

"The light produces in people all that is good and right and true."

EPHESIANS 5:9 | PH

"... the darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in."

1 JOHN 2:8 | LB

LB = LIVING BIBLE, GN = GOOD NEWS TRANSLATION,
NIV = NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION,
AMPC = AMPLIFIED CLASSIC EDITION,
PH = PHILLIPS PARAPHRASE.