

Out of Darkness and Into God's Light

December 24th, 2023

Philadelphia Church

Pastor Derek Forseth

Isaiah 9:6-7 NKJV

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:2-5 NKJV

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined. You have multiplied the nation and increased its joy; They rejoice before You according to the joy of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For You have broken the yoke of his burden and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. For every warrior's sandal from the noisy battle, and garments rolled in blood, will be used for burning and fuel of fire.

Breakthroughs: (in succession)

- **We walk into light and out of darkness**

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- **Oppression is broken**
- **Death is replaced by hope**
- **Increased joy**

Luke 2:10-11 NKJV

Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Emmanuel

God With Us

Psalm 34:3-8 NKJV

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

God's blessings in Psalm 34:

- **God delivers us from our fears.**

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- **God delivers us from our fears.**
- **God takes away our shame.**

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God's blessings in Psalm 34:

- **God delivers us from our fears.**
- **God takes away our shame.**
- **God saves us from our troubles.**
- **God sends angels to deliver us.**

Count Your Blessings Hymn Lyrics

Baptist Hymnal, 1991

**When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.**

Count Your Blessings Hymn Lyrics

Baptist Hymnal, 1991

Count your blessings, name them one by one;

Count your blessings, see what God hath done;

Count your blessings, name them one by one;

Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

Count Your Blessings Hymn Lyrics

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Are you ever burdened with a load of care?

Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?

Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,

And you will be singing as the days go by. [Refrain]

Count Your Blessings Hymn Lyrics

Baptist Hymnal, 1991

**When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.**

Count Your Blessings Hymn Lyrics

Baptist Hymnal, 1991

So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,

Do not be discouraged, God is over all;

Count your many blessings, angels will attend,

Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJV

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

John 1:1-5 NKJV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 1:14 NKJV

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Genesis 1:1-3 NKJV

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness [a]was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

John 10:10 NKJV

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Quote

You are not what you did. You are what you repeatedly do.

T.H.

7 things I've learned in 2023:

1. God is still in control

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3. The Spirit is still within me

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3. The Spirit is still within me

4. The Church is still essential

7 things I've learned in 2023:

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5. Satan is still deceiving

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3. The Spirit is still within me

5. Satan is still deceiving

7. Glory is still coming

2. Crisis still King

4. The Church is still essential

6. The Gospel is still saving

- L. C.

John 3:16 NLT

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

Heaven:

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- We will have unique callings to carry out.

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- **We will have unique callings to carry out.**
- **We will be engaged in meaningful service.**
- **We will live eternally in a vibrant and fulfilling way.**

Philippians 3:20 NLT

**But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives.
And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.**