

Christmas Eve 2022
The Light of Christmas
12/24/2022

- Light of Christmas
- What was the world like when Jesus was born?
- The world was ruled by the Roman empire.
- Rome controlled the world and they gained that control by force.
- Is a very dark place

Isaiah 9:2, 5-7 (NIV) The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned... Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

- A Savior will be born!

Luke 2:1-11 (ESV) In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 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, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 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. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

1 John 1:5 (NIV) "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

- "I am the light of the world."

John 12:46 (TLB) '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.'

- Everybody has dark days

Dark Days Include:

A) DISAPPOINTMENT

Job 30:26 (NIVR) I hoped good things would happen, but something evil came. I looked for light, but all I saw was darkness.

- because there was no place for them in the inn.

B) **DOUBT**

John 12:35 (NIRV) "Whoever walks in the dark does not know where he is going. He's drifting, no clear objective."

C) **DEPRESSION**

Psalms 23:4 (NIV) Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

- Life in a fallen world.

1 Samuel 22:29 (GW) O Lord, you are my lamp. The Lord turns my darkness into light.

What Jesus Does in Times of Darkness:

1st) He **ENCOURAGES** me.

Psalms 34:18 "The Lord is near to those who are discouraged. He saves those who have lost all hope.

- "God will meet you where you are in order to take you where He wants you to go." "
- "I'm with you."

2nd) He gives me a **PURPOSE**.

Jeremiah 29:11 (TLB) For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Phil. 4:13 (Amp) "I have the strength for all things in Christ who empowers me. I'm ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses inner strength into me."

3rd) He **GUIDES** me.

John 8:12 (TLB) "I am the light of the world so if you follow Me, you won't be stumbling through darkness. For living light will flood your path."

Psalms 18:30 (NIV) As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.

Ephesians 5:13 (ICB) But the light makes all things easy to see.

1 John 2:8 (ICB) But I am writing a new command to you. This command is true; you can see its truth in Jesus and in yourselves. The darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.