

Jesus Came to Light up Your Life

Thesis: On this Christmas Day, I have good news. Jesus came to light up your life personally and profoundly.

Text: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; John 1:1-5, 8:12

Yesterday in our Calvary Family Devotion, we read from Isaiah 9:1-7. Today, we celebrate Jesus as the light of the world and of our lives.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned... 6 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. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7).

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it [cannot conquer it] (John 1:1-5).

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

On this Christmas Day, I have really good news. Jesus came to light up your life personally and profoundly.

We need light because we need to see ourselves, others, and the world around us. It is really hard to see when it is dark, when there is no light.

Instead of leaving us in our darkened condition, God the Father sent Jesus, the Son of God, to enlighten our lives and this world.

1. **Jesus is God's gift to us.** *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned (Isaiah 9:2).* The world without Jesus is trapped in darkness and slavery to the fear of death. Jesus breaks in with the light of life and enlightens every person according to John 1:4. Jesus shines with the glory of God into our lives. And,

Through Jesus, God comes to have a personal, intimate, and organic relationship with us (John 15:5). What a great gift.

2. **Jesus knows how to rule and reign well.** He has the shoulders to bear the weight of the government of our lives and the government of this world. We can all testify that, left to ourselves, we mess up our lives and our nations. We need one who rules with justice, righteousness, and mercy to put things back together again.
3. **Jesus is the Wonderful Counselor.** He is the wisdom of God. We need a counselor to lead us and to guide us in the path of light. And the word “counselor” can also be translated “master strategist.” Jesus shows us the plan of God for our lives and for our world. God knows how to put things together and to pull off his plans for us and this world intimately and intentionally. Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness; rather, they will walk in the counsel, wisdom, and light of the Almighty God.
4. **Jesus is the Mighty God.** He is anointed and appointed to do something about our condition (Luke 4:18-19). Where we are lost, he comes to save. Where we are in bondage and captivity, he comes with freedom and liberty. Where we are sick, he comes with healing. Where we are broken hearted and oppressed, he comes with encouragement and healing of the heart. Jesus is mighty to save, mighty to heal, mighty to deliver, and mighty to encourage.
5. **Jesus is our Everlasting Father.** He comes and reveals the Father heart of God perfectly to us. Jesus said, “To see me is to see the Father.” He is the way to the Father. And He loves us and leads us like a good Father, like our Eternal Heavenly Father. Because of Jesus, we have a place to belong; we are invited into the family of God and we are no longer orphaned.
6. **Jesus is the Prince of Peace.** He comes to put things right. He comes to bring wholeness and well-being to a world that is fragmented and broken. He puts the shattered pieces of our lives and this world back together again with his wholeness. He is the transforming God.
7. Jesus came to light up your life. **His presence enlightens and transforms.**

Prayer

My prayer for you and for me is that we will receive the light of the world and walk in the light of life, all of which is found in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Invitation

1. **God has made himself known. He has revealed himself to us most clearly in Jesus, the Son of God.**
 - a. If you want to know who God is, then look at Jesus.
 - b. If you want to know how you were meant to live, then look at Jesus.
 - c. If you want meaning and purpose for life, then join Jesus on his mission in your spheres of influence.
2. **God wants you to experience an ongoing relationship with Jesus as your Savior, Christ, and Lord.**
 - a. We all need a savior, a deliverer, a redeemer.
 - b. We all need the Christ, the one appointed and anointed to do something about our condition and the condition of this world.
 - c. We all need the Lord, a king, to rule and reign justly, rightly, and wisely.
 - d. **You and I can have an ongoing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.**