

When Light Breaks Through the Darkness

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden, the perfect environment of God's creation was broken, bringing chaos and leading to a world filled with confusion, deception, pain, and drudgery. Our relationship with God for all men and women was altered because of our inherited sinful nature. Today, our world is increasingly struggling to distinguish between good and evil. Our cultural values are shifting so fast that virtues once respected are now ignored, and behaviors once condemned are now admired. The prophet Isaiah anticipated this. **Isaiah 5:20:** *"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."* The Apostle John introduces Jesus Christ as the incarnation of God, wanting us to realize that Jesus is entirely God in human form, and explains the purpose of God coming to earth as a human. **John 1:4-5:** *"In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* Jesus came to bring the light of God into a spiritually dark and dying world. The Bible teaches us that Christ's life is a light for everyone, the message of salvation, and the promise of eternal life. **1 John 5:11-12:** *"And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has the life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."* The Gospel illustrates that light and darkness are common symbols of good and evil. Light (Jesus) symbolizes life and ultimately eternal life with God in His heavenly kingdom. Spiritual darkness describes a person living apart from God, representing evil, sin, and unbelief that lead to eternal death. Unbelievers remain in this spiritual darkness because Satan, the ruler of this world, has blinded their minds. They are unable to understand the Gospel. **2 Corinthians 4:4:** *"the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."* Jesus said, **John 3:19-20:** *"And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light and does not come to the Light..."* John explains that God is Light, **1 John 1:5-7:** *"This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."* Jesus affirmed, **John 8:12:** *"... I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness but will have the Light of life."* Jesus has given this world His light, His life-giving Spirit, shining through the spiritual darkness in the sinner's heart. No matter how deep the darkness, the light of God's love and truth overcomes every sin that separates us from Him. Trust in Jesus, walk in His light, and gain eternal life.