

...Step 1...

If we don't recognize the darkness, we will never appreciate the light.

... Step 2...

There is a light in the world that the darkness has not and cannot overcome.

...Step 3...

We are intended to be a humble yet distinctive reflection that scatters the light that brings life.

...Step 4...

Light gives hope... 'hopefully' for everyone.

Light brings Life

Darkness brings Death



























Incarnation: The birth of Jesus

Simple & Exquisite

Incarnation: The birth of Jesus

What looked at first like something very simple, Has proven and will prove to be the fulfillment of the exquisite redemptive plan of God for the whole world and for all time.



Isaiah 9:1-2

Written to a nation that has been... devastated by a civil war, dismantled by foreign powers, undermined by godless leadership, eroded by moral degradation, and desperately looking for deliverance....

Isaiah 9:1-2

- In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.
- 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Matthew 4:12-17

Matthew 4:12-17

- 13 And leaving Nazareth Jesus went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
- so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
- "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles--
- the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."
- 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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- 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
 - "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Isaiah 9:6-7

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6 For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called
Wonderful,
Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.
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7 Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

Incarnation: The birth of Jesus

The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* quoting *Athanasius*, 4th century church leader in Alexandria, Egypt

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Pick one up on your way out...



... share it with a friend or neighbor!



