



DIGGING DEEPER

Isaiah 9v1-2 – Christmas Gifts – Light

PLEASE READ – Isaiah 8v19 – 9v7

GETTING STARTED

Discuss why Paul uses the language he does in 2 Cor 9v15 to describe Jesus...

To what extent is the real wonder of Christmas getting lost in an increasingly commercial Christmas?

1) LIVING IN THE DARK (8v19-22)

Isaiah is writing to the Southern Kingdom (Judah) just before the Northern Kingdom (Israel) is conquered by the Assyrians in 722BC. How would you describe their circumstances and the attitude of their hearts?

Focus in on v22 and the phrase 'they will look towards the earth...' – what is Isaiah saying and what is the timeless message for our world today?

Where does the light come from and why is that important? (See v1-2 / v6)

2) A LIGHT HAS DAWNED (v1-2)

Talk about the picture Isaiah uses in v2...

Why is it so significant that Matthew draws our attention to these verses from Isaiah 9 in his gospel (Mt 4v13-17)?

In what sense is Jesus the light?

3) LIVING IN THE LIGHT

The NT has much to say about living in the light. Feel free to turn to other passages if you have time but do check out the references below...

We live in the light by...

- **God's Grace** – 2 Cor 4 v1-6 / Col 1v13
- **Receiving Jesus** – John 1v9-13 / John 8v12
- **Declaring His Praises** – 1 Peter 2v9-12 / Mt 5v16-18

Meditate on the words of Jesus below...

Mt 5v16-18: *'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*