

#3 - To Be Light In The Darkness

Some Things About Darkness

- 1. Darkness is the **NATURAL CONDITION** of our universe (Genesis 1:1-4)
- 2. Human beings are designed for **LIGHT** (Exodus 10:22-23)
- 3. Darkness may contain hidden DANGERS

-Mankind's natural spiritual state is the darkness of **<u>SIN</u>**

Why He Came

<u>John 12:35-46 (NIV)</u> Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. ³⁶ Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

³⁷ Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. ³⁸ This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

³⁹ For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:
⁴⁰ "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them." ⁴¹ Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.

⁴² Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved human praise more than praise from God.

⁴⁴ Then Jesus cried out, "Whoever believes in me does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. ⁴⁵ The one who looks at me is seeing the one who sent me. ⁴⁶ I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. 1. There's No DIRECTION In The Darkness

2. CROSSING From Darkness To Light Has To Do With Belief

John 3:16 (NIV) For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

3. Despite The EVIDENCE, Many DO NOT Believe

- -Some **<u>REFUSED</u>** to believe
- -Some cared more about what **<u>PEOPLE</u>** thought than what <u>**GOD**</u> thought
- -Some **PUT OFF** believing

4. Are You Seeing His Glory This Christmas?

John 1:14 (NIV) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Sample Prayer

"Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and that I need forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins and that God raised You from the dead. I believe that Your death on the cross paid the penalty for my sins. I trust in what You did alone as the only way to have a personal relationship with a holy God. Come now and be my Savior and the Lord of my life from this time forward. Help me to be the person you want me to be. Thank you for hearing me and saving me from eternal darkness, Jesus! Amen."