

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Christmas has many spiritual truths, but it's important to start with this one first:
the world is a dark place.

Isaiah 8:19 (NIV) *When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰ Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. ²¹ Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. ²² Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.*

Isaiah 9:1 (NIV) *Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan. ² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*

The Sun does 3 things:

1). The Sun gives us life.

2). The Sun shows us the truth

1 John 1:5 (NIV) *This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.*

3). The Sun is beautiful.

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) *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 greatness 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.*

² *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*

John 1:9 (NIV) *The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.*

John 8:12 (NIV) *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*