

“DARKEST BEFORE THE DAWN”

Isaiah 9:2

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. Introduction

A. Who are they and what darkness did they walk in? (vv. 1-2)

“the land of Zebulun... Naphtali ... Galilee of the nations.”

“The people who walked in darkness”

“dwelt in a land of deep darkness”

Spiritual darkness _____ people in _____ & oppression.

2 Kings 17:6

Psalms 107:10-11

Mark. 7:8

“Behind a frowning providence, he hides a smiling face.”

-Will Cowper

“The remnant, caught up in the toils of national calamity, have been walking in darkness, enduring the hiding of God’s face...”

-Alec Motyer

B. What darkness do we walk in?

Messiah (1742):

Newton:

Today:

Spiritual darkness impacts Church & _____.

“Mankind, till enlightened by the word and spirit of grace, are truly in a state of darkness. Think darkness is a veil which conceals from us, not only distant, but the nearest objects.”

-John Newton

II. What has God done? (v. 2)

"have seen a great light."

"on them has light shone."

The Father sent the Son to _____ the light of salvation in the darkness.

Psalms 107: 14

Ephesians 5:7-8

Colossians 1:13

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5

"Devastation will give way to glory. The dawn will break in the very region that was the first to experience God's judgment."

-Barry Webb

III. So what? How does this change how we live now?

"elect exiles", "sojourners and exiles"

Already free from sin's penalty & power. Not yet free from sin's presence.

Forsake the deeds of darkness:

Declare His excellencies:

Expose the deeds of darkness:

Pray the Kingdom of the Son would come in fulness.

_____ as one who has seen the _____.

Romans 13:12

Ephesians 6:12

1 Peter 2:9

"As long as Christ sits on the mediatorial throne, every day is a good day and all days are days of salvation."

-A.W. Tozer

"Believe in the darkness what you have seen in the light."

-Lilias Trotter

BIG IDEA: Jesus came so we could live in light instead of darkness.