

E. His name is Prince of Peace.

<sup>14</sup> "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,"

Ephesians 2:14

<sup>6</sup> "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

<sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

#### IV. BELIEVE JESUS IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE LIGHT

A. Zacharias (father of John the Baptist) prophesied to Jesus the Light having come.

<sup>67</sup> "Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:

<sup>79</sup> 'To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.'"

Luke 1:67, 79

B. Simeon testified to Jesus the Light having come.

<sup>25</sup> "And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

<sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

<sup>27</sup> So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law,

<sup>28</sup> he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

<sup>29</sup> 'Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen Your salvation

<sup>31</sup> Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

Luke 2:25-32

**BELIEVE THE LIGHT IS JESUS**

#### THE LIGHT HAS COME!

**Believe The Light**

**Pastor Steve Reynolds**

#### Introduction:

A. Merry Christmas! We like Christmas white and bright. It's the perfect time to focus on JESUS, THE LIGHT HAS COME!

Have you ever considered the very first thing God created was light. Genesis 1:3 reveals. "*Then God said, 'Let there be light; and there was light.'*" God created light first because nothing can literally survive physically without it.

In a similar way Jesus came to earth as God wrapped in flesh to be light and to rescue us from darkness. He did this because none of us can thrive spiritually, emotionally or mentally without Jesus as our Light.

<sup>12</sup> "*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'*"

John 8:12

<sup>46</sup> "*I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.*"

John 12:46

B. You might feel like the light has gone out in your life. Attend THE LIGHT HAS COME! Teaching Series to discover how the Light of Christmas can brighten your dark days.

TODAY	Believe The Light
Dec 14	Celebrate The Light
Dec 21	Worship The Light
Dec 23-24	Receive The Light
Dec 28	Share The Light

**TEXT:** Isaiah 9:1-7

Seven hundred years before Jesus arrived, God promised a Light that would come and shatter darkness. Believe that this Light prophecy was fulfilled by Jesus.

## HOW TO BELIEVE THE LIGHT IS JESUS

### I. BELIEVE JESUS THE LIGHT OVERCOMES DARKNESS

A. Israel was in a state of darkness.

<sup>1</sup> *"Nevertheless, the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, as when at first, He lightly esteemed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward more heavily oppressed her, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles."*      Isaiah 9:1

<sup>29</sup> *"In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came and took Ijon, Abel Beth Maachah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali; and he carried them captive to Assyria."*

II Kings 15:29

<sup>26</sup> *"But when I looked for good, evil came to me; and when I waited for light, then came darkness."*      Job 30:26

B. Isaiah prophesied that Jesus, a “great light”, would shine upon them.

<sup>2</sup> *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined."*      Isaiah 9:2

<sup>12</sup> *"Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee."*

<sup>13</sup> *"And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali,*

<sup>14</sup> *that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:*

<sup>15</sup> *"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:*

<sup>16</sup> *"The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned."*

<sup>17</sup> *"From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'"*      Matthew 4:12-17

### II. BELIEVE IN THE IDENTITY OF JESUS THE LIGHT

A. Jesus is both human and divine.

<sup>6</sup> *"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given..."*      Isaiah 9:6

<sup>14</sup> *"Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."*      Isaiah 7:14

B. Jesus is king!

<sup>16</sup> *"And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."*      Revelation 19:16

### III. BELIEVE IN THE CHARACTER OF JESUS THE LIGHT

<sup>6</sup> *"...And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

Isaiah 9:6c

A. His name is Wonderful.

<sup>20</sup> *"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,"*      Ephesians 3:20

B. His name is Counselor.

<sup>5</sup> *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."*      James 1:5

C. His name is Mighty God.

<sup>9</sup> *"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily"*      Colossians 2:9

D. His name is Everlasting Father.

<sup>13</sup> *"As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him."*      Psalm 103:13