

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## “Let There Be Light”

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 God spoke these words after he created the heavens and the earth (*Genesis 1:1-3*). It was the first order of business to help sustain life that was to be created next. Plants, animals and man would need light in order to sustain and protect their existence. As man would be served by animals, and man and animals would be served by plants, none could exist without light. Therefore light was commanded by God “to be” and exalting the glorious power of God “there was light.”

While God ordained the sun to provide light and heat on our earth, God does not need the sun to provide light. Light came by command on the first day of creation, while the sun was made on the fourth day (*Genesis 1:3-5; 16-19*). John reveals to us that the glorious eternal city of heaven does not need the sun for its light, “for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb” (*Revelation 21:23*). God is light and dwells in light. Light is connected with His glory (*I John 1:5, I Timothy 6:16*).

As light was a first priority to God in creation to sustain

life, shining as light, reflecting the glory of God should be a priority in our life.

In a dark world of course speech and impurity, there is a need for clean uplifting words and pure lives. Christians are “light in the Lord,” therefore they need to walk “as children of light” (*Ephesians 5:8*). Their speech should not be characterized as filthy, foolish, or course jesting, but uplifting words to others, full of thanksgiving (*Ephesians 5:3-5*). Covetousness and fornication was the darkness that light is not only forbidden to “fellowship”, but even must “reprove” as revealing light always exposes darkness (*Ephesians 5:11-13*).

In the dark world of ignorance, there is a need for the light of knowledge. As God commanded light to shine out of darkness, He through the gospel gives “the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” (*2 Corinthians 4:6*). While the “god of this world” tries to blind the eyes of the world so they will not obtain the knowledge of God through Jesus, Christians should be shining, by holding forth the world of life.

(*Philippians 2:16*) A dark world needs to see Christians who are not murmuring or questioning the demands of God (*Philippians 2:14*), but are truly seen as shining stars against the canopy of the dark world of sin (*Philippians 2:15*).

In the dark world of hate, light of love needs to shine. If a man confesses to be a Christian, and hates his brother, God says he is really “in the darkness” (*I John 2:11*). Darkness has blinded his eyes. God’s love is not that we are just kind to people whom we like, but that we seek the well-being of all, even our enemies (*Matthew 5:43-48*). Love is not just fuzzy good intentions, but concrete action which truly meets the need of the one we are to love (*I John 3:15-18*).

As light was a priority in the sequence of God’s creation of the universe, light should be a priority in our life before Him. As God said, “Let there be light” a spiritually dark world is in need of light. Dear Christian, Let there be the light of purity in a dark world of impurity! Let there be the light of knowledge in the dark world of ignorance! Let there be the light of love in the dark world of hate!