



## “AT CHRISTMAS, GIVE THE GIFT OF ‘THE LIGHT’ ”

Isaiah 9:2, 6; John 1:4-9

The Christian world has entered into the Advent Season. This is a time when we reflect on really how much God truly loves each and everyone of us. Since the beginning of time God had one plan in mind to love and be loved by those He created. From the first home He provided for Adam and Eve up until this morning, God has always sought to redeem those that refuse to obey Him.

The Old Testament is full of stories of how God's chosen people continuously abandoned God after every victory which He provided for them. The children of Israel did everything which they felt was right in "their own eye." They worshipped other gods and committed unimagineable sins against God. God would punish them, forgive them, and restore them time and time again. They were a people, not unlike those in today's world, who chose and loved to live in darkness rather than God's marvelous light. In the dark, all forms of sinful behavior was common among the people of God. Satan has always tried to help people in the darkness, because darkness means death and hell, while light means life and heaven.

The prophet Isaiah in the 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter proclaims that God will send a light into a dark and dismal world. The light will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. The Prophet Isaiah said look and be prepared for His coming. The Apostle John said Jesus is the light which God has sent into a dark world.

As the children of Israel waited for the coming of the light of Salvation, we in the Christian faith today exist in darkness and continue to not only remember the coming of THE LIGHT, but each year remember that when THE LIGHT was born He brought life into a dying world.

For the next Sunday of Advent, I pray that each of us will individually and personally ask Jesus Christ, the living light, to illuminate the dark corners of our lives where we hide from God. As we reflect on the birth of Jesus, let us ask God for a renewed spiritual birth in our own lives to give us enough ‘Light’ to live holy.

The gifts God wants from us are obedience, devotion, worship, praise, and love. Let THE LIGHT show each of us where and how to purchase these gifts and give them year round.

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