

#1 Presence of God - Isaiah 9:1-7

How does God's presence give us peace at Christmastime?

God's presence dispels (Isaiah 1-2).	gloom and
Jesus brings peace and (Isaiah 9:6-7).	joy through his
Jesus is the	who came into the World at Christmas

I am the Light of the World – John 8:12

(John 1:4-5; 8:12; 1 John 1:5).

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JESUS CAME TO LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE

By Rick Warren – December 19, 2021

From "The Light of Jesus at Christmas"

"The darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in."

1 John 2:8 (TLB)

Why does God talk so much about light in the Bible? Because God is light. When he is Savior and Lord of your life, the light of his love gives you hope in the dark days: "The darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in" (1 John 2:8 TLB).

So here's my question for you: Are you ready to exchange your darkness and the dark days you're going through for God's light? This is what Christmas is all about! Jesus came to light up your life.

Jesus didn't come alive at Christmas. He has always existed, because he's God: "Before anything else existed, there was Christ, with God" (John 1:1 TLB). Jesus has been in existence for eternity. He created everything. Eternal life is in him, and this life gives light to all mankind. His life is the light that shines through the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

You see, when you try to live your life without God, you live it in the dark. It's why things don't make sense to you—because you don't have the illumination of the Holy Spirit at work in your life. It's why you're burdened with negative emotions. It's why you're not healed of the brokenness in your life. And it's why you stop growing.

This Christmas, it's time to flip the switch and let the light of Christ into your life—not just for your dark days but for all your days.

Think It Over

- Why do you think Christians still have "dark" days? Why do God's people still face adversity after surrendering their lives to him?
- How has God's light shown you your path as you've grown in spiritual maturity?
- In what ways do you want to grow spiritually in the next year?