

A CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

2008 Advent Season

"Why We Celebrate the Light"

Isaiah 9:1-7 (Pew Bible Page 489) and John 8:12 (Pew Bible Page 757)

"THE PEOPLE WALKING IN DARKNESS..." vs 2

1. The darkness is seen in MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN
"...let us put aside the deeds of darkness" Romans 13:12
2. The darkness is seen in SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS
"The Light has come into the world but men loved the darkness instead of the light and their deeds were evil." John 3:19

"...HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT" vs 2

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life'".
John 8:12

"The Light of the World is Jesus"

Isaiah 9:2-7

Response: "The Light of the World is Jesus"

WHY WE CELEBRATE THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

1. We Celebrate the PROPHETIC light...
"Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

...because it shines with HOPE
2. We Celebrate the BETHLEHEM light...
"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me One who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient of times." Micah 5:2

...because it shines for ALL PEOPLE

3. We Celebrate the **SHEPHERDS** light...

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.'" Luke 2:8-14

...because it shines for those **OVERLOOKED**

4. We Celebrate the **ANGELS** light...

"It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people'" Luke 2:26-31

...because it shines for those who need **GOOD NEWS**

"I am the Light of the world"
John 8:12