



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday Morning Sermon by Ray Reynolds
December 10, 2017

The Christmas Lights

Introduction: It is Christmas time! I want to share spiritual lessons we can learn through the Christmas season. I want us to see how everything connects back to the gospel story. Each of us have opportunities to talk about Christ during this holiday season and God has given us many visual reminders of His saving work. Jesus did a marvelous job teaching object lessons throughout His ministry. We need to learn from Him. Our text for today will be **Isaiah 9:1-7**. Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. Illumination - The Light Sparks

- The light for those in the shadow of death (**Psalm 23:4**).
- The light for those living in disobedience (**Matthew 4:12-17**).
- The light for those in the darkness (**John 1:4-9, 9:1-41, 12:46**).
- The light for those who try to deceive (**I Corinthians 4:3-6**).
- The light for those who are headed to destruction (**I Peter 2:9**).

II. Liberation - The Light Shines

- The light for the end of oppression (**Judges 6-7**).
- The light for the end of war (**Psalms 46:9**).
- The light for the end of neglect (**Luke 4:16-21**).
- The light for the end of bondage (**Hebrews 2:14-16**).
- The light for the end of ignorance (**I John 1:5-7**).

III. Incarnation - The Light Spreads

- The light for the individual (**Matthew 5:13-16**).
- The light of the resurrection (**I Corinthians 15:20-28**).
- The light for the family (**Ephesians 5:8-33**).
- The light for the government (**Titus 3:1-7**).
- The light for the church (**Revelation 1-3, 11:15**).

Conclusion: Remember the story of Darnell Barton from Buffalo, NY. What would happen if you started looking for people to help? People need your light. The Lord restores and revives His people despite how desperate the situation seems. In Isaiah's time, the people of Israel seemed to be "going under" and falling apart but there was reason to hope; a light was coming. John said, "*Don't be overwhelmed by the dark world around you; live in the light*" (**I John 1:7**). We need to live in the light and we need to share the light! How can we share the gospel story during Christmas? Will you share spiritual lessons you have learned? Are you walking in the light? Are you shining your light? Have you received salvation through Jesus?