

Sermon 20 Dec '15 Leeston  
Isaiah 9:1-3, 6-7 "A Light has dawned"

1. Walking in Darkness

9:2 "The people **walking in darkness** have seen a great light; on those **living in the land of the shadow of death** a light has dawned."

Jesus entered into our darkness. Right from the time he was born on earth, people were intent on removing him – Herod, Jewish religious leaders – people who were threatened by him.

Today people living in darkness, who are threatened by Jesus, continue to want to remove him from their lives. Some have done so successfully.

**Reflect:** What have my times of darkness been?

How did Jesus enter my darkness?

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2. Seeing the Light

9:2 "The people walking in darkness **have seen a great light**; on those living in the land of the shadow of death **a light has dawned**."

The Gospels urgently convey to us the reality of Jesus, yet it is only by the action of the Holy Spirit that it can truly dawn on us.

**Pray:** Father God, please reveal to me who Jesus, the Light of the World is, not just in my head but deep in my spirit ... (continue prayer) .....

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3. Who is this 'Light'?

9:6 "For to us a child is born ... and he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

**Reflect:** What is God showing me about Jesus?

How is this changing my view and experience of Christmas?

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