

December 10, 2017

TRAVELING LIGHT

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7 NLT

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14 KJV)

The message of Isaiah is that the coming of the Messiah will change the meaning of e_____ — the past, the present, and the future, because this Messiah will be God with us (Immanuel), and He will bear our burdens and take away our sins.

Today's Christmas-defining word is L_____.

Depression is epidemic in our culture in all age groups.

The curse of the fall is that we sometimes find ourselves struggling through this life with darkness all around us — globally and individually.

The message of Isaiah, the message of Christmas, is that Jesus the Messiah came to reverse that curse. He came to bring light into our darkened lives.

Three ways we experience the light of Christ in our lives:

1. The light that marks the d_____.

Like a lighthouse, God will never move. He will always be there.

2. The light you need at every t_____.

This light for the moment, this light that is enough for the next turn, comes from our time in the Word.

Jesus speaks to us through his Word. As we spend time in his presence each day, his Word gives us the light we need for the journey today. Ref: Psalm 119:105

3. The light of a sun-shiny _____.

Those who follow Jesus never lack for light and never lack for sunshine. Ref: John 8:12

The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined. (Matthew 4:16)

We live in a land where death has cast its shadow — not only physical death, but the death of hope and the death of dreams and the death of the ideas and the death of our plans for the future.