

We Have Seen a Great Light

by *Sandra Grussing*

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. 3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder." Isaiah 9:2-3



Sometimes Christians think of the season of Lent as a six-week long funeral. It depresses us to examine our sinfulness and recognize it as the cause of Christ's suffering and death.

It is true that Lent is a time we have set aside for self-examination and repentance, but Isaiah reminds us that the great light we have seen should "increase our joy." As we reflect on the great sacrifice Christ made in order to make each of us right with God, we should celebrate. We've already seen the great light. We already know that Jesus willingly went to the cross in order that you and I need never experience that separation from God that we so deserve.

"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

Yes, the same light we celebrated at Christmas can be celebrated right now. Easter Sunday is the day we Christians rejoice over the resurrection of our Savior and rightly so. Christ's victory over death is our own. It was won for us by the suffering and death we are meditating upon during this Lenten season.

We know that because we, unlike those who followed him before his crucifixion, have seen the great light of his resurrection. Our hearts have already been enlightened by the warmth of the Holy Spirit. We can rejoice in the Lord always; even during Lent, even at the death of a Christian loved one, even at our own death.



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96. For Lent, I'm Giving up...Giving Up Something

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172. Injustice

Prayer: 7. Dear God of Justice and Mercy, I want to thank you for sending...

Super Girl: 21. Christians tend to build ourselves nice little prison cells...

Scripture References: Matthew 4:16; Isaiah 35:10; John 12:36

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