

the
GOOD  **NEWS**

LIGHT IS COMING

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

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Lament

Crying out to God and acknowledging
this side of heaven things aren't the
way they should be.

The world can be dark.
Jesus is the light.

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Sin is the power that is accusing us, tempting us, deceiving us, possessing us, deforming us, dehumanizing us, and devastating us. 2020 has reminded us how powerful sin is.

“The Secular Salvation Story”
isn’t working.

It tells us to place our trust in
ourselves. Through human progress
and personal achievement,
we can live the dream.

“How to Demon”

(1) to keep them believing they are in control by (2) allowing their lives to be pretty good (not too good, not too bad).

“Wanting More” is a dangling carrot that keeps you believing you will one day save yourself.

“Having Enough” is a blinder that keeps you from seeing your need of God.

“Indeed Wormwood, the safest road to Hell is the gradual one – the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts.”

- *CS Lewis, Screwtape Letters*

Luke 1:78-79

“Because of God’s tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.”

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John 1:1-5

“In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God.
God created everything through Him, and nothing was created except through Him.”

John 1:1-5

“The Word gave life to everything that was created, and His life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”

"This high and holy Christ does not cringe at reaching out and touching dirty sinners and numbed sufferers. Such embrace is precisely what He loves to do."

- Dane Ortlund

"I think we're going to have an exceptionally good Christmas. The very fact that every outward circumstance precludes our making provision for it will show whether we can be content with what is truly essential."

“I used to be very fond of thinking up and buying presents, but now that we have nothing to give, the gift God gave us in the birth of Christ will seem all the more glorious...the emptier our hands, the better we understand what Luther meant by his dying words:
'We're beggars, it's true.'”

“The poorer our quarters,
the more clearly we perceive that our
hearts should be Christ's
home on earth.”

- A letter from Dietrich Bonhoeffer to fiancée
Maria von Wedemeyer from prison,
December 1, 1943