



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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The Dayspring From On High

Lights are prominently used in the celebration of Christ's birth and coming into this sin-darkened world and for good reason as reflected in the following article by Irving D. Larson:

One of the figures used in the Scriptures to describe the coming of Christ into the world was used by Zacharias in Luke 1:76-79, *"And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby **the DAYSPRING from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.**"*

The figure used is that of **the rising sun**. The word **"dayspring"** means **"dawn"** or, **"the beginning of day."** It also means **"the first appearance of the light"** and is sometimes translated by the word **"East."** It is the same word used by the wise men when they said, "We have seen his star in the east," or **"in the dayspring."**

The blessedness of **the coming of Christ into the world** is frequently set forth in the Bible under the idea of **the rising sun, or a light in the world**. In Numbers He is the **"Star of Jacob."** Isaiah states that the people that have walked in darkness have seen **a great light**. Malachi prophesies that **the Sun of righteousness** shall arise with healing in His wings. In John's gospel He is the **"True light,"** and Peter refers to Him as **"the Day Star rising in our hearts."** Jesus Christ referred to Himself as, **"the Light of the world."** The book of Revelation caps it all off by referring to Christ as **"the bright and morning star"** and also as **"the light of the new Jerusalem."**

At this Christmas season, let us think of the supreme joy and happiness that is made possible for all people because **"the Dayspring from on high hath visited us!"**