

THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS / LA ESPERANZA DE NAVIDAD

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.” ^{“2} *El pueblo que andaba en tinieblas vio gran luz; los que moraban en tierra de sombra de muerte, luz resplandeció sobre ellos.”*

INTRO: In midst of what 2020 has brought us, the Word of God, the Bible brings us hope. Though we have seen darkness, despair, hunger, chaos and death; our faith has not waver, it remains anchored on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It's not about if Jesus was born on Dec. 25th or another date, it isn't about how much paganism is found in Christmas or if Santa Claus is part of the birth of Christ. It's about what His birth has brought to mankind. What has His birth given us?

I. PEOPLE STILL WALK IN DARKNESS

1. *There are those that haven't seen the light because of spiritual blindness*
2. *There are those that live in darkness because they want to*
3. *There are those that are bound to it even if they want to escape*

II. PEOPLE ARE LIVING IN THE LAND OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH

1. *Pestilence have risen up on earth more now than history has recorded*
2. *Hunger has risen up not only in other countries but here in the U.S.*
3. *Suicide has risen up this year than it has been recorded*
4. *Homicide not only in other countries but here in the U.S.*

III. WHY IS IT THAT THIS CONDITION EXIST IN THIS TIME OF AGE?

1. *There is no one to share the Good News to them*

- 1) **Rom. 10:14** ^{“14} How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?” ^{“14} *¿Cómo, pues, invocarán a aquel en el cual no han creído? ¿Y cómo creerán en aquel de quien no han oído? ¿Y cómo oirán sin haber quien les predique?*

2. *There is no light to guide them out of spiritual blindness*

- 1) **2 Cor. 4:4** ^{“4} The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” ^{“4} *en los cuales el dios de este siglo cegó el entendimiento de los incrédulos, para que no les resplandezca la luz del evangelio de la gloria de Cristo, el cual es la imagen de Dios.”*

3. *Satan knows that his time is short*

- 1) **Rev 12:12** ^{“12} Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.” ^{“12} *Por lo cual alegraos, cielos, y los que moráis en ellos. ¡Ay de los moradores de la tierra y del mar! porque el diablo ha descendido a vosotros con gran ira, sabiendo que tiene poco tiempo.”*

IV. THE GREAT LIGHT THAT HAS DAWNED AND THAT HAS APPEARED - **Is. 9:6** ^{“6} For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” ^{“6} *Porque un niño nos es nacido, hijo nos es dado, y el principado sobre su hombro; y se llamará su nombre Admirable, Consejero, Dios Fuerte, Padre Eterno, Príncipe de Paz”*

1. *Who is this Light?*

- 1) A Child is born!

- (1) The virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus
 - (2) The Wise Men said "He was King of the Jews" / *"Es Rey de los Judios"*
 - (3) The Angel said: "He will save His people of their sins" / *"Salvara a su pueblo de sus pecados"*
- 2) A Son is given!
- (1) Is. 6:8 ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ⁸ *Después oí la voz del Señor, que decía: ¿A quién enviaré, y quién irá por nosotros? Entonces respondí yo: Heme aquí, envíame a mí."*
 - (2) Mat. 16:16 ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁶ *Respondiendo Simón Pedro, dijo: Tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo del Dios viviente"*

2. His Characteristics

- 1) Wonderful Counselor / Admirable Consejero
- 2) Mighty God / Dios Fuerte
- 3) Everlasting Father / Padre Eterno
- 4) Prince of Peace / Príncipe de Paz

Conclusion: