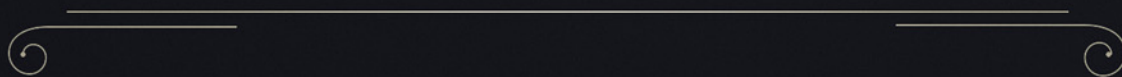




The Candles of

ADVENT





The Candle of
HOPE

Unto Us a Child is Born

Isaiah 9:1-7

1. The birth of Jesus means that God and His grace come to me in the darkness of my life and circumstances.



The Candle of
HOPE



God's people chose to go their own way rather than God's way; to trust in themselves and in foreign powers rather than trust in God. Thus, the nation was in darkness.



God promises that just as these people have experienced grief and despair, they will also experience joy (9:3–5).

Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” **Matthew 4:13-17**



God wants to give hope
and a certain future to
people who don't deserve
it, to those who lost hope
due to circumstances
outside their control.





Whether I am a willful sinner,
or I am in darkness due to
circumstances outside my
control, I should look for
Jesus to come to me in my
darkness where he will shine
his light.



**Do I see light shining
in the darkness this
Christmas?**

2. The birth of Jesus means that God is passionate about redeeming my life and circumstances.





I will come to know
Jesus as an
extraordinary guide
for my life.



I will come to know
Jesus as the one who
acts on my behalf with
the very power of God
the Father.



I will come to know
the rule and
authority of Jesus as
unending.



I will come to know
shalom, or the peace
of God, in my heart
when I come to know
Jesus in my heart.



I will come to know
God's great,
passionate love for me
when I come to know
Jesus Christ.



God will come to the aid of His children. He will come with power and great passion! He will act and make things right.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”

John 14:18, 23



**“I have been seized
by the power of a
great affection.”**

Is that your testimony today?

I invite you to come
before God in all the
darkness of your
circumstances and ask
Him to shine the light
Christ.



The Candle of
HOPE

I invite you to allow
yourself to be seized
by the power of great
affection.
Let God love you.

