

THE LIGHT, REALLY DOES, SHINE IN THE DARKNESS!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it! Some of the most profound words ever written. Coming of course from the prologue to John's Gospel, being a standard Christmas passage.

I don't know about you but I have to limit the amount of news I watch. I do want to know about major events and what is happening in the world. What I can manage without is the constant speculation and latest statistics. One day inflation is down but growth is too. Next day the stock markets doing well but retail sales are not. And as for the relationships between nations, they just seemingly 'to and fro', erratically. And again with constant predictions and conjecturing.

The Gospel accounts of what happened that year, in the Middle East, is a real antidote to all this confusion and gloom. Stars, heavenly messengers, bewildered shepherds and royal entourages make for a story well worth the joyful re-telling. And yet these were but signs that something unique and unusual was happening in the realm of humanity. Unique and special, in that it was a one off event in the evolution of human experience, which was for all time. You might remember that certain pets are 'not just for Christmas but for life'. In the same way this event was not just for then, but for the whole life of the human race. The light that's shining into any darkness!



That light that was a public proclamation that God is truly with us. Indeed God always has been! Yet in the life, teaching, death and Resurrection of Jesus we see an example of what God is truly like. Vulnerable as we are, then loving, compassionate, purposeful and even willing to die rather than deny himself.

So when you hear bad news either nationally or personally; whether actual or speculative, do remember the message we celebrate, during these cold dark December days. That God is with us. That God understands our needs and comprehends our prayers however stutteringly they are given. That God wants us to share the joy of the heavenly hosts. In other words -

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it!

*Have a wonderful Christmas
and may 2026 bring you peace and joy*

Heather and Alan Lowe