LOVE

Christmas

No Christmas?

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No Christmas?

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> *I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*
>
> JOHN 8:12

Every December, the world seems to sparkle. Christmas trees glow in living rooms, eggnog fills grocery shelves, and radios echo with joyful songs from sunrise to sunset. It's a season filled with light, warmth, and celebration.

But imagine a world without Christmas—a world without truth, without love, without hope… and without redemption.

There is a place on earth where Christmas is nearly unknown. No carols drift through the air. No nativity scenes appear in windows. No one whispers the name of Jesus or celebrates His birth. That place is North Korea, where Christmas has been outlawed since 2016.

In complete devotion to the government's ideology—one that elevates Kim Jong Un to a godlike figure—any celebration of Christ's birth is forbidden. Those who dare to honor Jesus risk imprisonment… or even death.

It is a land cloaked in darkness. And yet—God always leaves a light. Over 400,000 courageous Christians remain, quietly holding on to the hope of Christ.

In Scripture, darkness often symbolizes misery and adversity. And an eternity without Christ is the darkest choice of all.

That's why Psalm 95:7–8 urges us, "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart." God offers something far greater than the shadows.

Jesus declared in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

And in John 12:46 He reveals the very heart of Christmas: He came as Light, pointing us back to God.

Just as the shepherds sought the newborn King and watched the night sky blaze with glory, so darkness still flees wherever Christ is welcomed.

In a world with Christmas, we find truth, love, hope—and most precious of all—salvation. God spoke through Jeremiah 29:12–13, "Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart."

What a promise. He knows us. He hears us. He knows what we need before we even ask.

So what is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, and hope for the future.

No Christmas? Not us.

Praise God here in America, we live in a place where the Light still shines—and we can joyfully celebrate the Savior who came to redeem the world. And we can rejoice as Alan Jackson sings, "Let it be Christmas everywhere. In the hearts of all people both near and afar. Feel the love of the season."

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