



Light Shining In the Darkness

December 2014



Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn" (Isaiah 60:1-3).

Isaiah gives us a wonderful picture of revival among the people of God, with the result being an amazing influx of people into the Kingdom. Three powerful words: light, glory, and darkness, burn lasting images onto our minds. The scenario presented by Isaiah is of a world in darkness...cut off from the light of the Presence of God.

Then suddenly, a light begins to shine upon a group of God's people. Then another light. Many lights begin to shine in the night. The contrast to the darkness around them is astonishing!

The prophet makes it clear that the light is God's glory! The simplest way to understand the word glory is God's Presence. God is showing up in the midst of His people. The light and glory of His Presence is beginning to be manifest as His people wake up to His Presence right where they are. This is revival!

Continued on next page

Look at the response of those who are in darkness. Light in the midst of darkness becomes a summons to those who are perishing. Nations begin to flock to the light.

There is coming a great Harvest! It comes not because of our excellent evangelistic programs, but because the Church has humbled itself before the Lord in repentance and prayer, crying out for His Presence to be made manifest in our lives.

Father, how I long for Your Presence in my life! For too long, I've been content with little commitment, little faith, and little joy. No longer! Lord, I want You! I can never be content with anything other than Your Presence. I want to be like Moses who said he wasn't going anywhere unless You went with him. Forgive me, Lord, for going places in my own strength and for my own purposes. Lord, I ask for Your light and Your glory to come upon Your people. May we shine like stars in the universe because of Your Presence! I long to see Your Light shining through believers in a way that will attract those living in darkness. Awaken Your people, O Lord, that the nations may see You, living in us.

Adapted from [Revolution on Our Knees: 30 Days of Prayer for Neighbors and Nations](#) by David and Kim Butts. This book is available at [prayershop.org](#).

Prayer Points

Praise God for his overruling love (2 Cor. 5:14). Give thanks that God's love compels you to do things which please him. Confess those times when you have chosen not to listen to God's words and direction. Commit yourself to worshiping God, for his power over those things that destroy love. Ask God to reveal his overruling love in your daily life.

Pray that Satan's opposition will be bound so that men and women of all nations will see God's powerful love.

—Prayer Points taken from [Patterns for Prayer](#) by Alvin VanderGriend. This book is available at [prayershop.org](#).

Guide to Praying for Our State

- Seek God for a powerful spiritual awakening in our state.
- Pray for our leaders, that they will look to God for wisdom and guidance in decisions that impact the course of New York State.
- Pray that our economy will be strengthened through wise legislation and careful stewardship of resources by all leaders and citizens.
- Pray for the spiritual climate in New York, focusing on key areas:
 - Pray for the spiritual health of Christians, that we will grow in or faith, boldly stand for the gospel, and reflect the love of Christ.
 - Pray for our churches. That we will be powerful centers of discipleship, worship and evangelism.
 - Pray for the ills of our society – crime, addiction, violence and immoral relationships – will be replaced with a desire to honor God and His Word.
- Pray for our teachers and other mentors in the community, that they will guide our youth toward wise and upright choices.
- Pray for the healing of fractured and dysfunctional family situations, asking God to bless and protect the young and the vulnerable.
- Pray for provision, as well as long-term solutions, for those trapped in the cycle of poverty.
- Pray that all New Yorkers will respect all human life as a precious gift from God.