

Isaiah 60:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

Analysis

The contrast 'darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people' depicts comprehensive spiritual ignorance, yet 'the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee' promises concentrated divine revelation to Israel. This establishes that God's light shines brightest against darkest background. The purpose: 'his glory shall be seen' - God's self-revelation attracts nations to His light-bearing people.

Historical Context

This anticipates both post-exilic temple restoration and ultimate fulfillment in Christ - 'light of the world' (John 8:12) arising in dark Roman paganism. The church inherits this light-bearing mission (Matthew 5:14), displaying God's glory to dark world.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does the contrast between world's 'gross darkness' and God's arising glory on you create evangelistic opportunity?
2. In what ways should God's 'glory seen upon you' attract others to seek the light's source?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	הִנֵּה	הֵחָשִׁךְ	יִכָּסֶה	אֶרֶץ	וְעֲרָפָה ל
H3588	H2009	For behold the darkness	shall cover	the earth	and gross darkness
		H2822	H3680	H776	H6205
לְאָמֹת יִם	וְעַל יְיָ	יָצַח	יְהוָה	וְכְבוֹד ו	עַל יְיָ
the people	H5921	shall arise	but the LORD	upon thee and his glory	H5921
H3816		H2224	H3068	H3519	
יֵרָאָה:					
shall be seen					
H7200					

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 1:13 (Darkness): Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

1 Peter 2:9 (Resurrection): But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Acts 26:18 (Darkness): To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Malachi 4:2 (Resurrection): But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

Acts 17:23 (Parallel theme): For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (Glory): But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Acts 14:16 (Parallel theme): Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

John 8:55 (Parallel theme): Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

John 1:18 (Parallel theme): No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 1:14 (Glory): And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.