

John 8:12-15, 18-20

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." **13** Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." **14** Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. **15** You judge by human standards; I judge no one. **18** I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf." **19** Then they said to him, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." **20** He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

Isaiah 9:2-7

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. **3** You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. **4** For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. **5** For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. **6** For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.