

The Great Light Dawns

(Jesus Begins His Messianic Ministry)

Matthew 4:12-25

Key Verse: 4:16

“...the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”

1. Read verses 12-17. What was the situation when Jesus began his ministry? Where did he begin? How did this fulfill scripture? What was the situation of the people? (12,16) What was the content of Jesus' message? Why this message? Why was Jesus' coming like a great light?
2. Read verses 18-20. Whom did Jesus call to be his disciples? What were they doing? What did he call them to do? Why? What was their response? What can we learn here about what it means to be a Christian?
3. Read verses 21-22. Who were the next disciples Jesus called? What were they doing at the time? How did they respond to Jesus? What can we learn from their decision and obedience?
4. Read verse 23. Where did Jesus teach? What did Jesus preach? What did he do? Why is the news of the kingdom good news? What does Jesus reveal about God who sent him?
5. Read verses 24-25. What was the people's response to Jesus' ministry? How wide spread was his ministry? Why do you think people responded to him like this? What does it mean to all people that the Messiah has come?