

# The Light Begins to Shine

by F.B. Meyer

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*Jesus' early ministry was characterized by a tender and winsome approach, inviting people to the heavenly kingdom.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 4:12

**Topics:** "The Kingdom of God", "Embracing Jesus' Light"

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## Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee following John the Baptist's imprisonment, highlighting the tender and inviting nature of Christ's message of the Kingdom of God. He draws parallels between Jesus' arrival and the dawn that brings light to darkness, reassuring listeners that no matter how far they feel from goodness, they are included in God's love and grace. Meyer encourages the faithful to embrace Jesus' presence in their hearts, reminding them that even those in the most distant places are welcomed into the light of His kingdom.

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## Transcript

Matthew 4:12-17

Our Lord's earliest ministry seems to have been centered in Jerusalem and its contiguous villages. See John 2:1-25; John 3:1-36. But on the news of the Baptist's imprisonment, He took up His testimony to the hearers of the heavenly kingdom, which is the reign of God over the hearts and lives of men. Someone has said that it is "the universal awareness of God." Yet there was a difference! At the commencement of His work, the Savior showed a tenderness and a winsomeness which were very inviting to the crowds of harried sheep. See Matthew 9:36. His ministry resembled the gentle, holy dawn that breaks over the mountains and dispels the black shadows of the night.

The evangelist quotes the prophet's anticipation of the coming of Him who is called "Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God." Oh, do not be afraid when Jesus comes to your heart! You may be as far away from goodness and purity as Naphtali and Zebulun from Jerusalem, but Galilee of the Gentiles is included in John 3:16.

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