



# International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

## **The Light of Jesus' Face** **The Light of Jesus in the Psalms** **Psalm 4**

*There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" (Psalm 4:6).*

The Psalmist lived and we live in a world of much darkness and sin. He prayed, "O that we might see some good!" Whereas most people prefer living in the spiritual darkness around them, they too are calling out to see some good: only they are looking for good in all the wrong places with a wrong understanding of what is good. The Way to true good can only be found in the Bible, the written Word of God. The followers of Jesus Christ do not live in spiritual darkness, and they do not live in sin. They do not live sinlessly, but they sin less because Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit within them, and their study of the Bible help them overcome their sinful habits, practices, temptations, and the devil's schemes. Though they live in a dark world, they see much good with the light of Jesus Christ, Who shines His light on the path before them and helps them in His way.

When the followers of Jesus cry out, "O that we might see some good!" they immediately call out to the LORD (Yahweh or YHWH: shown by using all uppercase letters as LORD), and pray, "Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

In the Hebrew Scriptures, the LORD answered the Psalmist's prayer in a variety of spiritual ways, usually through true prophets, godly kings, and faithful priests. The LORD answered this prayer supremely when God the Father sent His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, into the world, where the Word became flesh and lived among us (see John 1:14). In Jesus Christ, the light of the face of the LORD shines on us. The Bible tell us that in Jesus Christ "was life, and the life was the light of all people" (John 1:4). In Jesus Christ, in His life, teaching, and work people see true good, whether they comprehend the true good or refuse to accept the true good or reject the Author of true good or not. In Jesus Christ, believers see light and true goodness in the face of the LORD. They see true good, and they want to

love and live according to the true good in Jesus—the Way, the Truth, and the Life (see John 14:6).

Those who follow Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior know and can declare with the Psalmist in Psalm 4:7-8, “You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.” The wealth and wine of those who walk in darkness and rebellion against the LORD may abound in this world, but they cannot know the love and gladness of heart that only Jesus Christ can bring when He comes to dwell within the life of one who trusts in Him. Because Jesus Christ lives with and within His true followers, they can lie down and sleep in peace with God and at peace within themselves. The Lord Jesus Christ gives them spiritual protection, so they can sleep secure knowing that Jesus never sleeps and He always keeps them in His loving arms. Even in the of midst trials, troubles, and numerous dangers, those who follow Jesus know that the God of love and peace will be with them (see 2 Corinthians 13:11) — L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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