

**JESUS the LIGHT
of the World
John 8:12;**

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So many people are seeking for something.

We intuitively feel

**that something is wrong with our lives
or that there must be a better way to live or to be.**

**Others feel somehow incomplete,
that something is missing from our lives,
Like, purpose, direction, love,
peace or connectedness.**

Our instincts are correct.

Something is missing –

**it is our CONNECTION to CREATION
and our RELATIONSHIP with the creator God.**

But there is GOOD NEWS.

The **GOOD NEWS** is there is a God who cares and wants a relationship with us.

The scriptures describe the creation of man as an **ACT OF LOVE** by the creator God.

It tells us that God had a purpose when He created us - that we can have a relationship with Him **THROUGH JESUS**.

The scriptures tell us of the **history** of mankind's **RELATIONSHIP** with God, of mankind's **repeated** descent into **SIN** which separates us from Him and of God's **CONSTANT OFFER** of **RESTORATION** of our **RELATIONSHIP** with Him.

**CHRIST'S SACRIFICE
on the cross
wipes away all sin
from those who turn to God.**

**It is the sacrifice of Jesus
and our turning to God
that makes us complete
and gives us the opportunity
of eternal life with Him.**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16;

This is one of the most famous verses in scripture as it announces **GOD'S LOVE FOR US** who are perishing because of sin.

"For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet now God in His gracious kindness declares us NOT GUILTY. He has done this THROUGH Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins." Romans 3:23-24;

If we recognize that **our sin separates us from God**, following **Jesus as our teacher** can bring us back into **COMPLETENESS**, into **RELATIONSHIP** with God

Jesus the Creator



Heb 1:1-3; “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

He [Jesus] is the radiance of His [God’s] glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He [Jesus] had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

**“In Him [Jesus] ALL things hold together”
“He upholds ALL things by the word of His power.”**

Every atom in the universe holds together because of The Christ. There is order and harmony in all creation. It is a universe, not a chaos, and Christ is the unifying force.

JESUS - HIS PRE-EXISTENCE.

“Jesus said unto them, Truly, Truly,
I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.**”

John 8:58;

“And now, Father, reveal My GLORY
as I stand in your presence, **the glory**
We SHARED before the **world began.**” Jn 17:5;

Before the world existed Jesus pre-existed
as the WORD who was WITH God and WAS God.

Physically, Jesus was descended from Abraham.

But He is also part of the Godhead.

God (as the Word) became a human being,

one of us. **“For in HIM dwells ALL**

the FULLNESS of the Godhead bodily.” Col 2:9;

JESUS - HIS PRE-EXISTENCE.

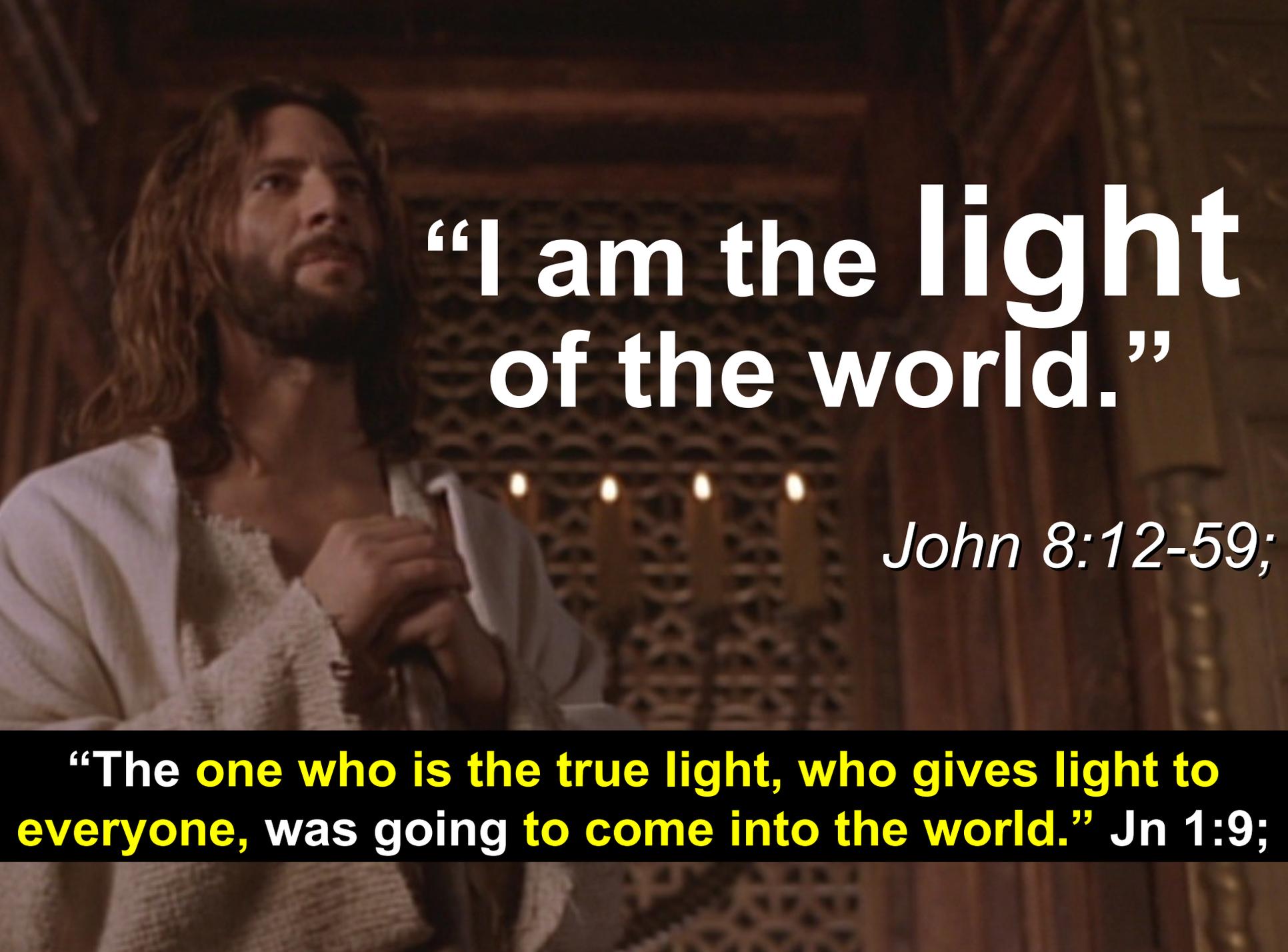
All the prophets spoke about Jesus.

“He said to them, O fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:-
Ought not Christ to have suffered these things and enter into His glory?”

Then beginning at

Moses and all the prophets,

He explained to them in ALL the scriptures
the things concerning Himself.” Luke 24:25-27



**“I am the light
of the world.”**

John 8:12-59;

“The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was going to come into the world.” Jn 1:9;

“If you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, you will have the light that leads to life.” Jn 8:12-59;

Isaiah 60:1; “Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

WE are to arise and shine because OUR light has come.

Matt 5:15-16; “No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

“In the same way your light must shine in people's sight, so that, seeing your good works, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.”

After Peter declared “**Jesus to be the Christ the Son of the living God,**” Matt 16:16;
Matthew then goes on to say:-

“Six days later **Jesus took Peter** and the two brothers, **James and John,** and led them up a high mountain.” Matt 17:1-9;

These **three men** see a sight they have never seen before... **Jesus is...**
TRANSFIGURED...
CHANGED...
METAMORPHOSED...
before them.

They rub their eyes... They squint...

Trying to adjust to the bright light surrounding Jesus.

His face was LIKE THE SUN...

His clothes became AS WHITE AS LIGHT...

Luke says "like LIGHTING."

"As the men watched, Jesus' appearance changed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became dazzling white. Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus."

"Peter blurted out, "Lord, this is wonderful! If you want me to, I'll make three shrines, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

But even as he said it, a bright cloud came over them, and **a voice from the cloud** said, **"This is MY BELOVED SON,** and I am fully pleased with Him. **LISTEN TO HIM."**

John may have had this event in mind when he wrote... **"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We've seen His GLORY, THE GLORY of the One and Only, who came from the Father."**

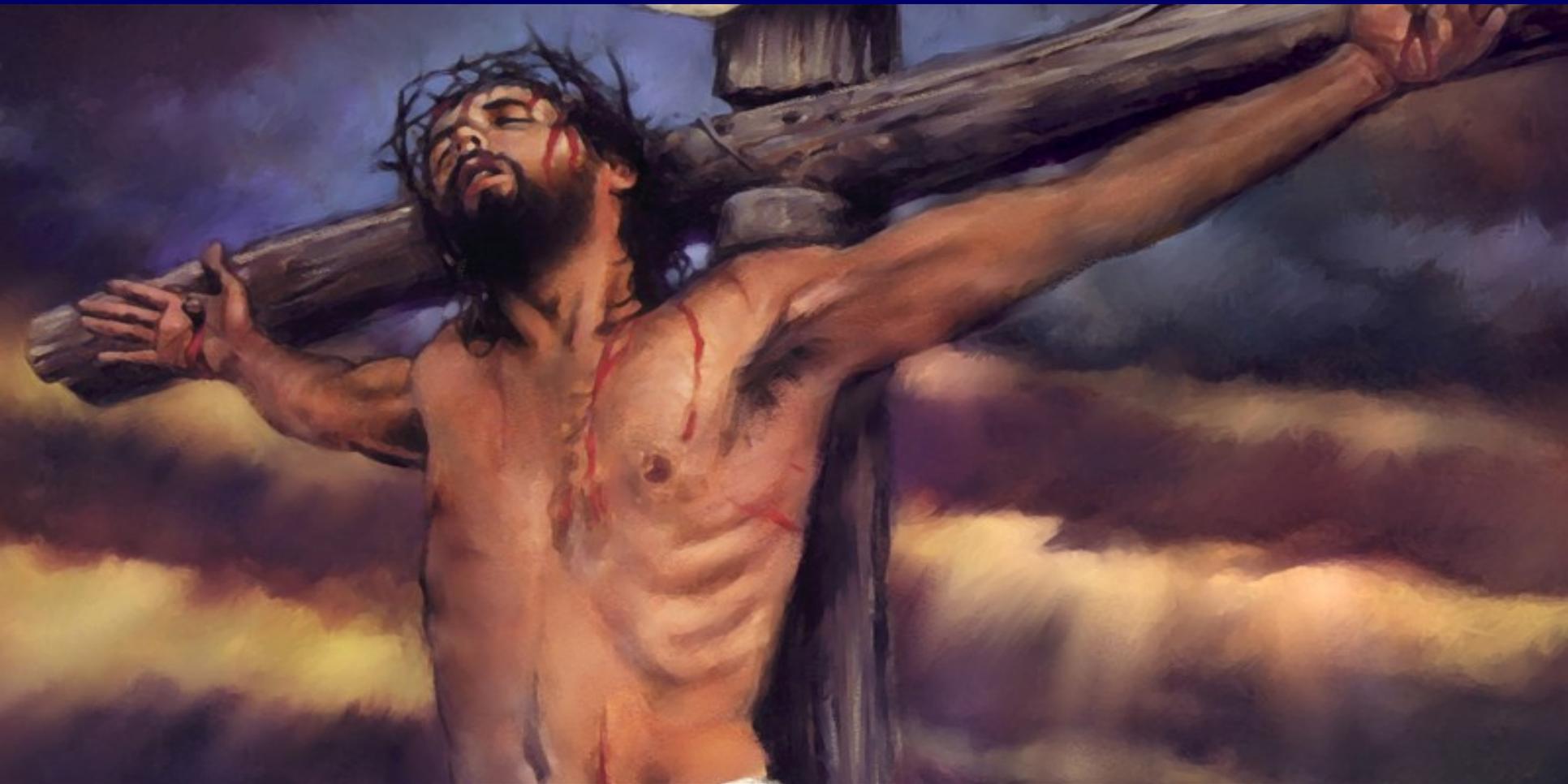
Peter wrote... 2 Pet 1:18;

"We were eye-witnesses of... HIS GLORY...HIS MAJESTY...

We heard **THE FATHER GOD say...**

"This is MY SON." We heard the voice when we were with Jesus on the sacred mountain."

When **Jesus was crucified** it seemed like **man's darkest hour** - Satan had won!



It seemed as if **Darkness** had **conquered Light**.

JESUS IS ALIVE ! He is risen!

“Then, as **they were afraid** and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, “**Why do you seek the living among the dead?** He isn't here! **He has come back to life again!** Don't you remember what He told you back in Galilee - that **the Messiah must be betrayed** into the power of evil men and be crucified and that **He would rise again the third day?**”

Luke 24:5-7;



1 Cor 15:3-4; “I passed on to you what was **most important** and what had also been passed on to me, that **Christ died for our sins**, just as the Scriptures said. **He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said.**”

JESUS IS ALIVE ! He is risen!

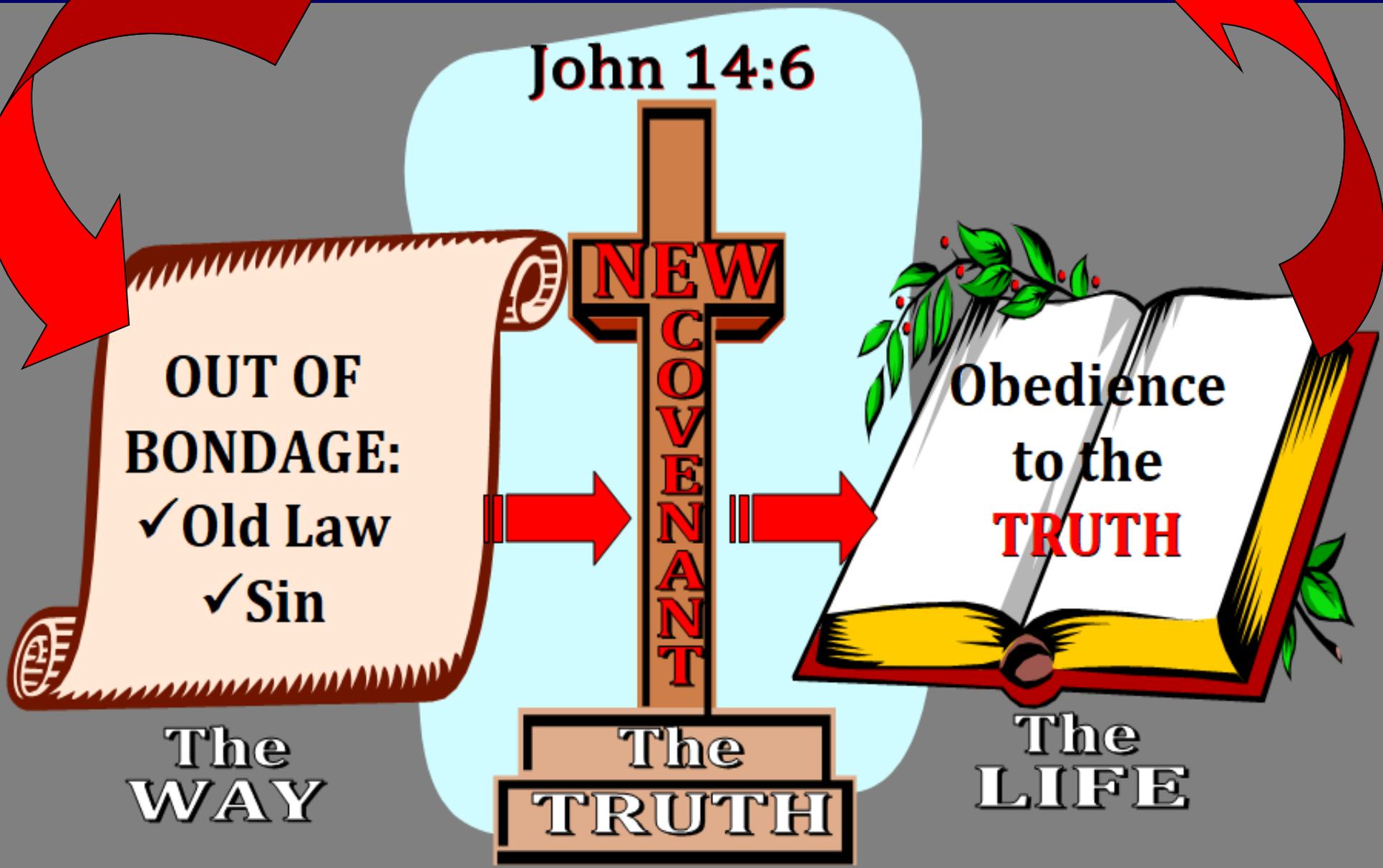
"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ." (Acts 2:36;)

Jesus ALLOWED sinful human beings to crucify Him, for through this means His innocent blood was shed for our sins to enable us to be reconciled to God.

**Remember - God said:-
"This is my beloved Son.
Listen to Him!" Luke 9:35;**

**“But [God’s purpose] is now
made manifest
by the appearing of
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who has
abolished death,
and has
brought life and immortality
to light through the gospel:”
2 Timothy 1:10;**

Jesus the Light of the world is:- The Way the Truth the Life



Jesus, the Light of the world, is:- the **Way** - the **Truth** - the **Life**

“Then many who heard him say these things **believed** in him.

³¹ Jesus said to the people who

believed in him, ‘You are truly

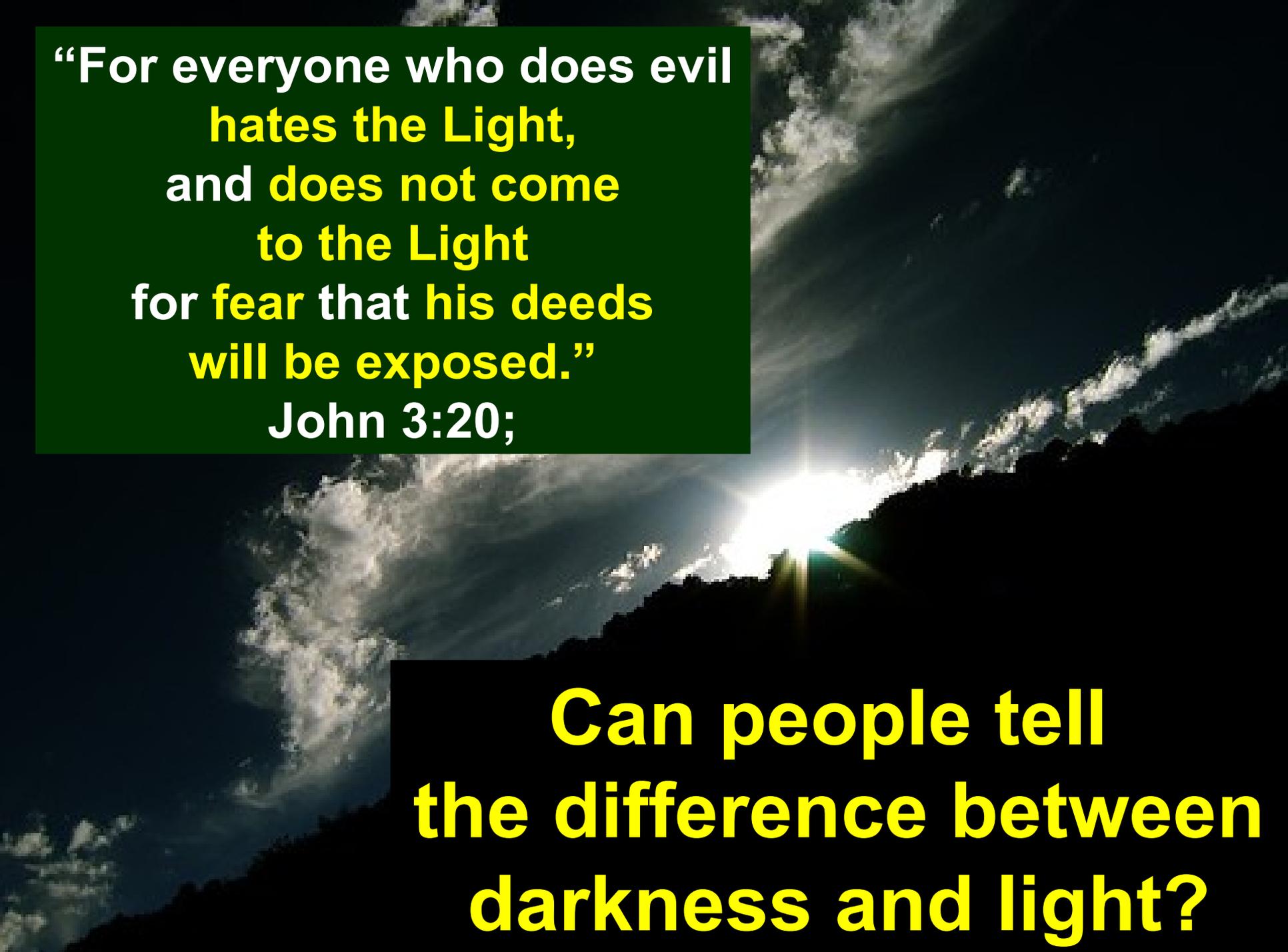
my disciples **if you remain faithful**

to my teachings. ³² And you will

know the truth, and **the truth**

will set you free” (8:30-32).





**“For everyone who does evil
hates the Light,
and does not come
to the Light
for fear that his deeds
will be exposed.”
John 3:20;**

**Can people tell
the difference between
darkness and light?**

**Jesus is the
light of life.
John 8:12-59;**



Light

Darkness

Life

Death

Conflict!

Do people really want to walk in Darkness rather than Light?

“There are **only TWO possibilities** as to how life arose; one is spontaneous generation arising to evolution, the other is a supernatural creative act of God, **THERE IS NO THIRD POSSIBILITY**. Spontaneous generation, that **LIFE AROSE** from **NON-LIVING MATTER** was scientifically **DISPROVED** many years ago by Louis Pasteur and others.”

“That leaves us with **only ONE possible conclusion**, that **LIFE AROSE** as a **CREATIVE ACT** of **GOD**.”

“I will **NOT ACCEPT THAT** philosophically because **I DO NOT WANT to BELIEVE** in God, therefore **I CHOOSE to BELIEVE** in **THAT** which **I KNOW** is **SCIENTIFICALLY IMPOSSIBLE**.”



– Dr. George Wald
Professor Emeritus of Biology,
Harvard Nobel Prize winner in Biology

**Do people really want to walk
in Darkness rather than in the Light?**

**What about religious people?
Jesus is the light of the world yet:-**

**Jesus spoke of the religious leaders of His day:-
“These people draw near to Me with their mouth,
and honour Me with their lips, but their heart
is far from Me. In vain they worship Me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”
Matt 15:8-11;**

Do we make the same mistake today?

The apostle Paul says “I want to make it quite clear to you, brothers, **what the message of the gospel that I preached to you is; you accepted it and took your stand on it.**”

“I passed on to you what was **most important** and what had also been passed on to me - that **Christ died for our sins, just as the scriptures said.**”

“He was buried, and He was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said.”

You can read this for yourself in:-
1 Corinthians chapter 15, verses 1-4;

The good news is that despite our sin and rejection of Him, God sent Jesus to die, to pay the price of sin on our behalf in order to reconcile us to Him.

**By Christ RISING
from the dead on the third day,
Jesus enables US ALSO
to rise from our state
of spiritual death,
to live again with God for ever.**

After Jesus' death burial and resurrection He gave this GOOD NEWS (gospel) to the apostles that He wanted proclaimed to the whole world.

Jesus said "I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 28:19-20;

"Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

In Acts 2 we see the apostle Peter proclaiming this new message of GOOD NEWS for the first time.

The **apostle Peter** shows that
an ancient prophecy has been fulfilled,
that **Christ has risen**
and **is reigning now at Gods right hand.**

“This **prophecy** was speaking of **Jesus**,
whom **God** raised from the dead,
and **we all** are witnesses of this.
Now **He [Jesus]** sits on the throne
of highest honour in heaven,
at **God's** right hand.

And the **Father [God]**, as **He** had promised,
gave Him [Jesus] the **Holy Spirit** to pour out
upon us, **just as you see and hear today.”**

**Peter helps people to realise
they have crucified the Messiah
that they have been waiting for by saying:-**

**“let it be clearly known
by everyone in Israel
that God has made this JESUS
whom YOU crucified
to be both Lord and Messiah!”**

You can read this in the book of Acts chapter 2.

The people were **shocked** at what they had done and asked "**Brothers, what should we do?**"

Peter said "**Just have faith, pray the sinner's prayer and join the church of your choice.**"

(no, he didn't really – but that's what many people are being taught today)

Peter ACTUALLY replied, "**Each of you must (repent) turn from your sins and be baptized (in water) into the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift (indwelling) of the Holy Spirit.**"

When Peter proclaimed the **gospel (the good news)** which **Jesus told him to proclaim**, 3000 people heard, believed, repented, were baptized and saved **then** received the gift of the Holy Spirit. They were **added (by God)** to the congregation (body) of Christ.

In the account of a follower of Jesus named Philip who is talking to an Ethiopian eunuch (who is reading scripture), Philip shares the same gospel:-

“So Philip began with this same scripture and then used many others to tell him the Good News about Jesus. As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?"

Philip said “You don't need to! Just have faith, pray the sinner's prayer and join the church of your choice” (no, he didn't really – but that's what many people are being taught today)

Philip ACTUALLY replied “You can be baptised, if you believe with all your heart.”

**And the eunuch replied,
“I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”**

You can read this yourself in Acts chapter 8

Saul [the apostle Paul] heard the same gospel and was saved in the same way.

“As he [Saul] was nearing Damascus on this mission [to persecute followers of Christ], a brilliant light from heaven suddenly beamed down upon him.

He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?”

“Who are you, sir?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!

Jesus said “Just have faith, pray the sinner’s prayer and join the church of your choice”

(no, he didn’t really – but that’s what many people are being taught today)

Jesus ACTUALLY said “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be TOLD what you are TO DO.”

‘So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. He remained there blind for three days. And all that time he went without food and water.’

God tells Ananias [a follower of Christ] to go to Saul:

“Rise and go to Straight Street, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man called Saul, from Tarsus...”

“Then Ananias went. He entered the house, and laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, I have been sent by the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, so that you may recover your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

“Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized.”

(You can about read this in Acts chapter 9)

Paul then retells the story of his conversion

(You can read this in Acts chapter 22:1-16;)

“I said, **'What shall I do, Lord?'** And the Lord told me, 'Get up and go into Damascus, and there **you will be TOLD all that you are TO DO.**'”

“Then **he [Ananias]** told me, 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to **know His will** and to **see the Righteous One [Christ]** and **hear Him speak.** You are to take His message everywhere, telling the whole world what you have seen and heard.’”

“**Ananias then said to me** ‘You do not need to do anything, just have faith, pray the sinner’s prayer and join the church of your choice’
(no, he didn’t really – but that’s what many people are being taught today.)”

Ananias ACTUALLY said: “Now, don't wait any longer. Rise up, **get yourself immersed [baptised] and get your sins washed away, trusting in His [Jesus'] name.”**

Some believe and teach Saul [who is now called Paul] was SAVED on the Damascus road and AT THAT POINT, his sins were forgiven and he received the Holy Spirit.

But the account says Paul was blind and fasting and praying for three days after the Damascus road experience, so what sins had Paul committed within those three days that needed forgiveness when Ananias told Paul to be baptized to wash away his sins?

And if **Saul HAD** already received the Spirit on the Damascus road, **WHY three days later** did Ananias tell him he will recover his sight and that **he will receive the Holy Spirit?**

It was **IN HIS BAPTISM** that Saul (Paul) was **SAVED** by the **BLOOD of CHRIST** which **washed his sins away.**

It was **AFTER HIS BAPTISM** that Saul (Paul) received the **[indwelling] gift of the Holy Spirit.**

Ananias told **Paul** to do the same thing as **Peter** had **told the crowd** on Pentecost who asked him **what they must do**, after they had caused Jesus to be killed.

Peter had told them that **baptism** was for the forgiveness of sins - their sins were washed away by the blood of Jesus' sacrifice.

“and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. **To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.**”

Revelation 1:5

Obeying the Lord's command [to hear, believe, repent, confess, be baptised and live a faithful life] is how we turn to God and gain eternal life.

Compare these texts and results:

“Therefore, after you've gone out, **make followers** from all nations. **Immerse [baptise] them** by the authority of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” **Matt 28:19**

“**Change your hearts** and each one of you must **be immersed [baptised]** by the **authority** of Jesus the Messiah, **so that your sins may be forgiven.**
Then you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**” **Acts 2:38**

“**So, change your hearts!** Come back to God, **so that He may wipe out your sins.**” **Acts 3:19**

Three days later Saul was **baptised** and **received the Holy Spirit.** **Acts 9:17-19**

“**Don't wait any longer. Rise up, get yourself immersed get your sins washed away,** trusting in His name.” **Acts 22:16**

Book of Acts	Sinner's Prayer	Heard	Believed	Repented	Confessed	Baptised
Pentecost	NO					
Five thousand	NO	Yes	Yes			
Philip	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes
The Eunuch	NO	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Saul to Paul	NO	Yes				Yes
1st Gentiles	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes
Greeks	NO		Yes	Yes		
Proconsul	NO	Yes	Yes			
Jews/Greeks	NO	Yes	Yes			
Lydia	NO	Yes				Yes
Jailer	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes
Crispus	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes
Other People	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes
Paul's story	NO	Yes	Yes			Yes

LIGHT OF CHRIST SHOWS THE WAY OF SALVATION

The purpose of God's GRACE: To offer us a way of escape from the ultimate consequences of our sins and help us back to a relationship with God.

The purpose of our BELIEF: To direct us to faithful obedience to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

The purpose of our REPENTANCE:
To turn us back to God, to follow Jesus the Christ, turning away from our sinful activities of the past and to learn a new way of living.

The purpose of our CONFESSION:
To show that we believe in God and Jesus the Christ and that we are not ashamed of our belief.

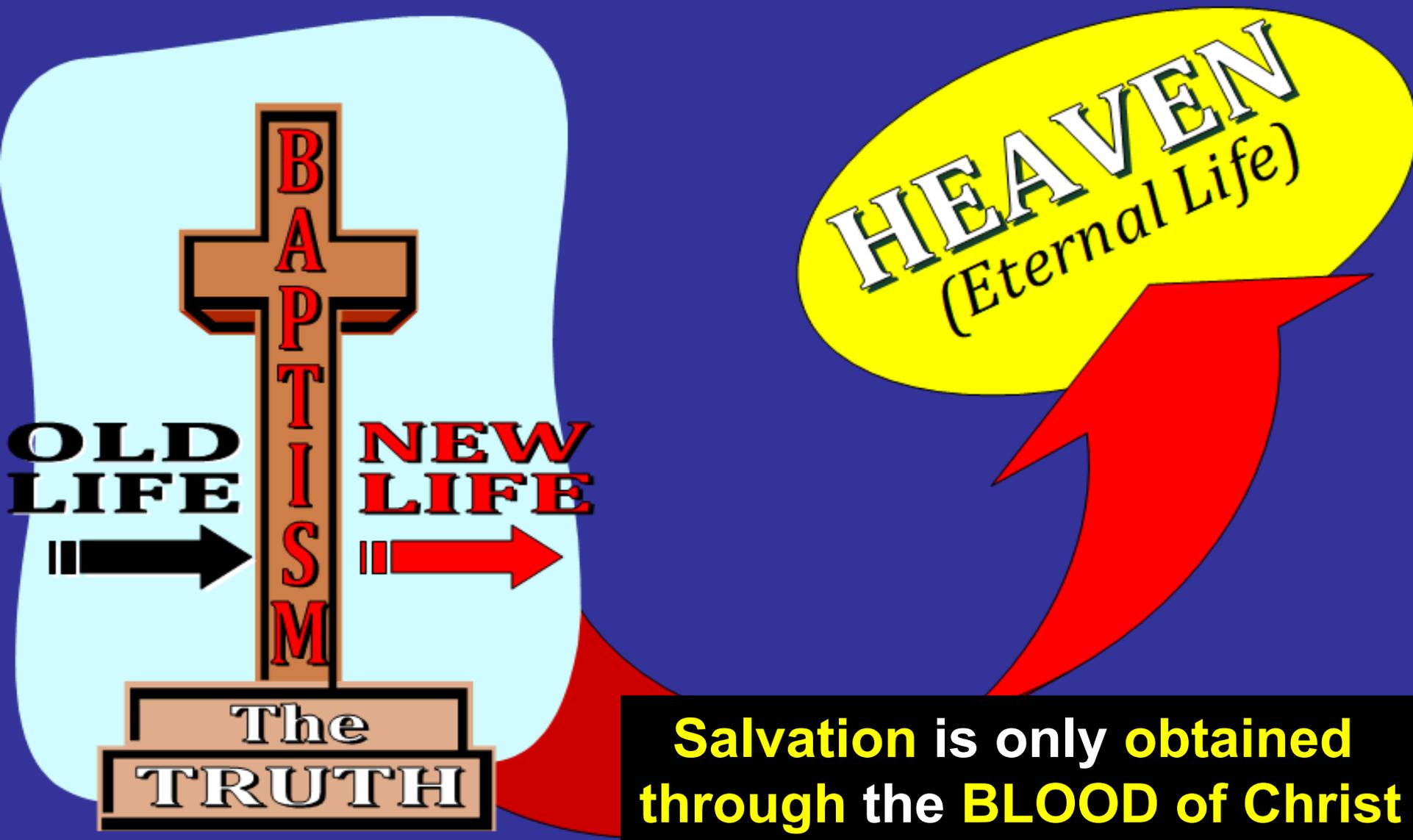
The purpose of BAPTISM: to allow the blood of Christ to wash away the sins of our PAST life, to be saved through His blood, to receive the gift of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 3:21; Revelation 1:5;

It is at the point of baptism that God cleanses us from our sins by and through the blood of Jesus and adds us to the body of Christ, His new covenant family.

BAPTISM is that watery grave from which we rise to walk in a new life, serving God, living faithfully until our bodily death, that grants us everlasting relationship with God.

“But if we **walk in the light**, as He is in the light, we have **fellowship** one with another, **the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**” 1 John 1:7;





**“Now you are light in the Lord.
Live as children of light.” Eph 5:8-9;**

**“You are all sons of the light
and sons of the day.” 1 Thess 5:5;**

**“But you are... a people belonging to God, that you
may declare the praises of Him who called you out
of darkness into His wonderful light.” 1 Peter 2:9;**

When we look at the world today
there seems to be so many
CONFLICTING ANSWERS

to the questions of what is wrong in our lives?
what is the gospel? and how are we to respond to it?

What about US?

Are **WE** willing to listen to:-
'another response'
to the gospel message
than the one that
Jesus, Peter, Philip, Ananias
and **Paul** proclaimed?

Will WE CHOOSE

to believe the people who say

**You do not need to do anything,
just have faith, pray the sinners prayer
and join the church of your choice**

???

OR...

Will we CHOOSE to trust the words of Jesus, Peter, Philip, Ananias and Paul?

“Now, don't wait any longer. Rise up, get yourself immersed [baptised] and get your sins washed away, trusting in His [Jesus'] name.”

“Each of you must turn from your sins (repent) and be immersed (in water) into the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift (indwelling) of the Holy Spirit.”

May we be **BLESSED**
and **FULFILLED**
in our **RELATIONSHIP** with **GOD**
as we make the **CHOICE**
of listening to the **GOSPEL MESSAGE**
as revealed in the **SCRIPTURES**
and so **in FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE**
RESPOND to that message of **GRACE**
by giving our life to **JESUS**
on **HIS TERMS** as **HE** wants us to do.

**BECAUSE
JESUS TRULY IS
the LIGHT of the World.
John 8:12;**

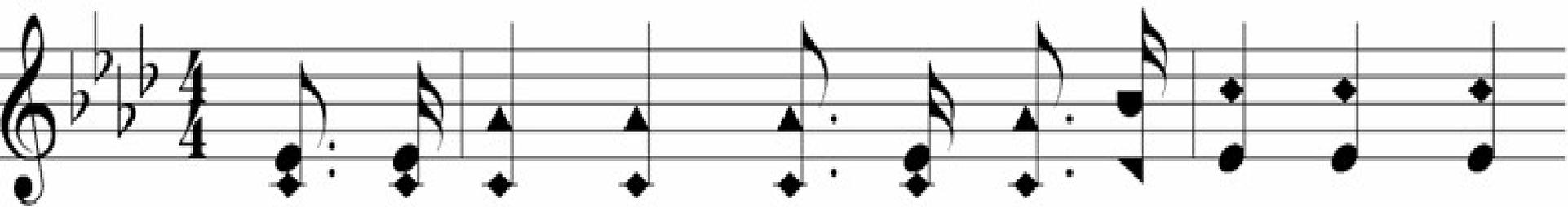
Prepared by Graeme Morrison

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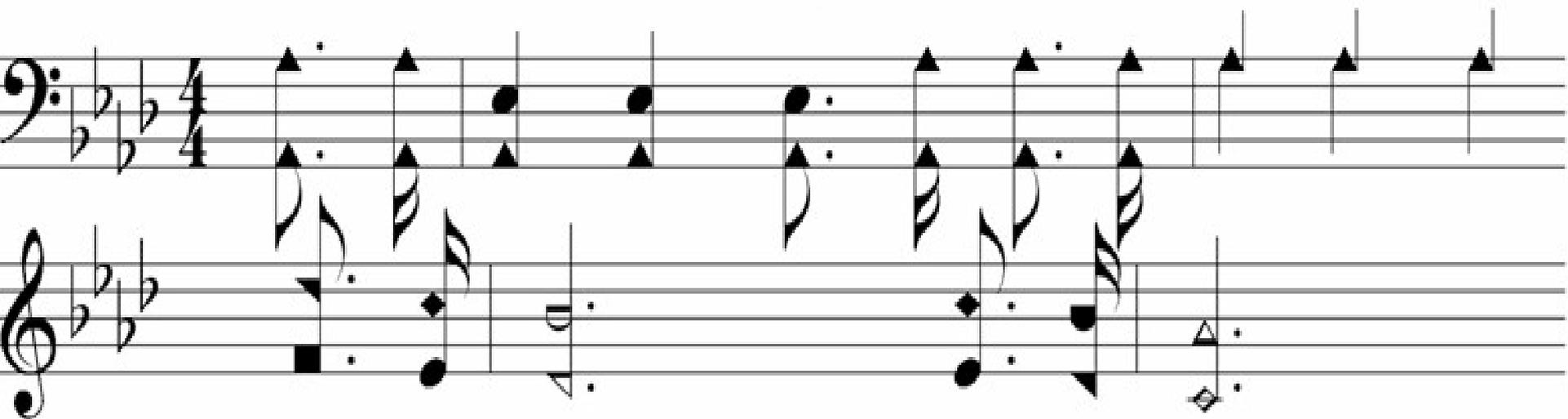
<https://www.graemebibleresources.com>

Hymn

Send the Light.



There's a call comes ring - ing o'er the rest-less wave:

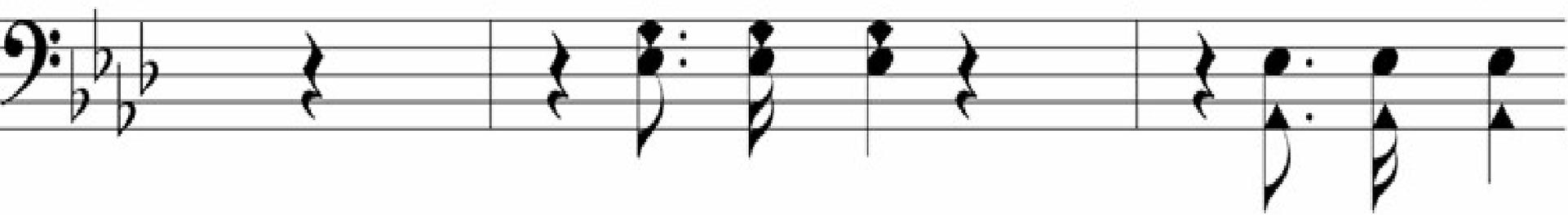


Send the light!

Send the light!

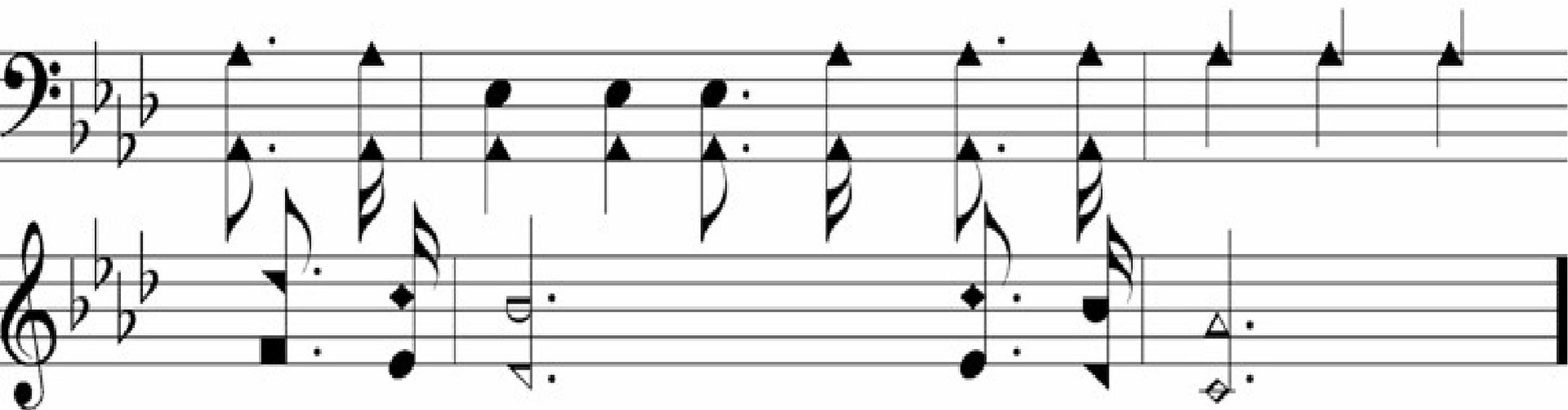
Send the light!

Send the light!





There are souls to res - cue, there are souls to save:

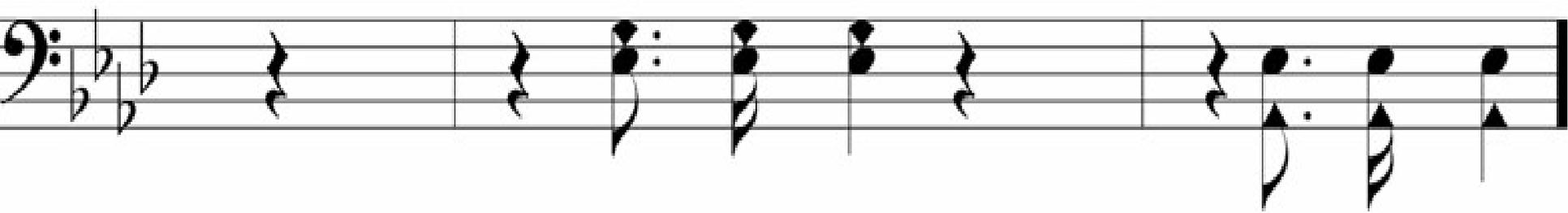


Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!



Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;
Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!
Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;

Send the light!

the bless-ed gos - pel light;

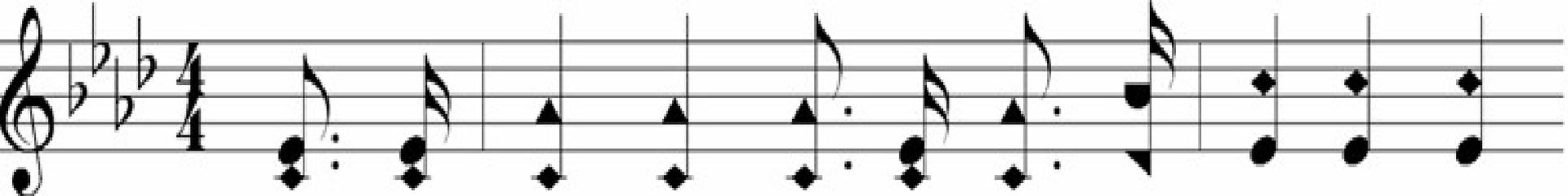
Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;

Let it shine

for ev - er - more.

Let it shine

for ev-er-more.



We have heard the Mac - e - do - nian call to - day:

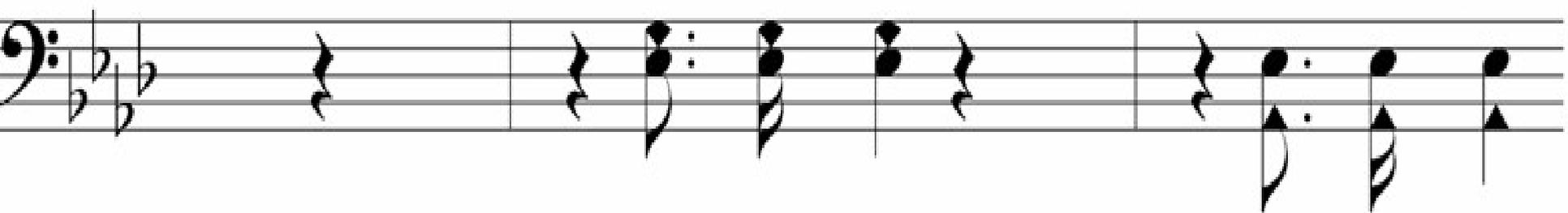


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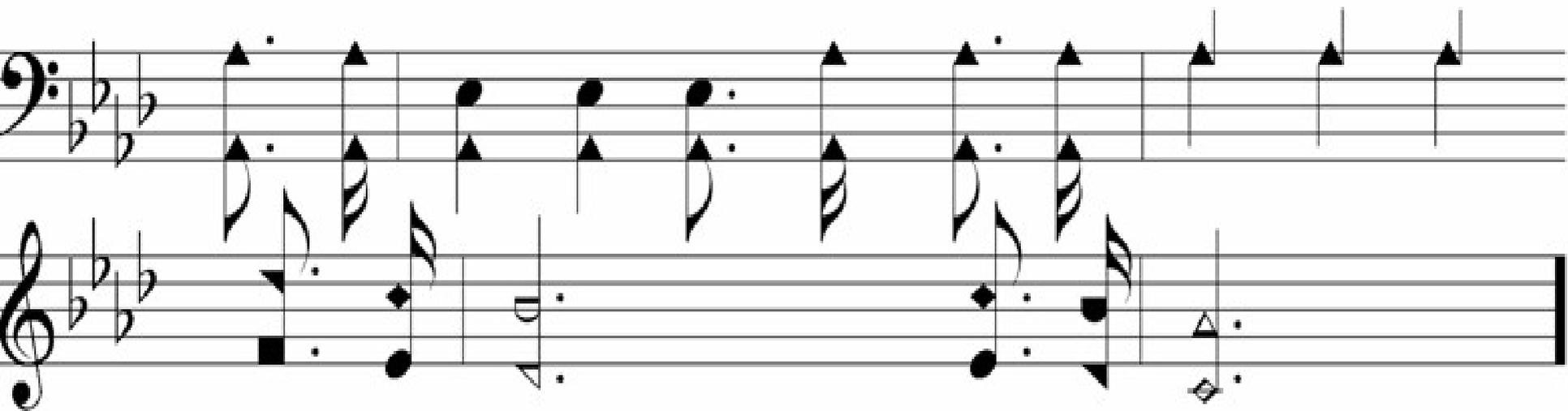
Send the light!

Send the light!





And a gold - en of - f'ring at the cross we lay:

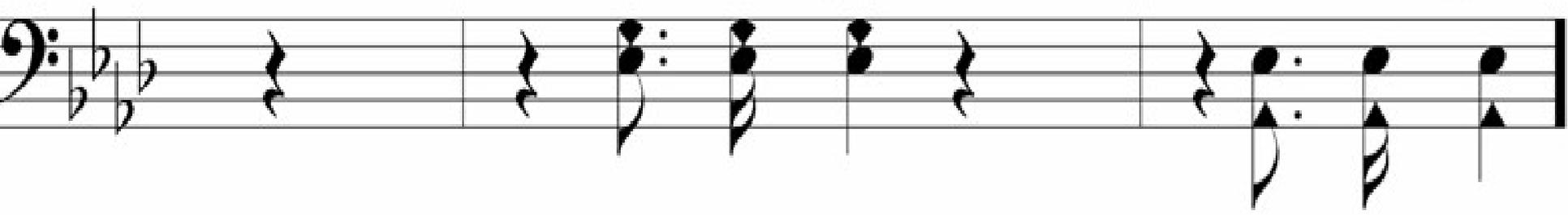


Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!



Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;
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Let it shine from shore to shore!
Let it shine from shore to shore!



Send the light!

the bless-ed gos - pel light;

Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;



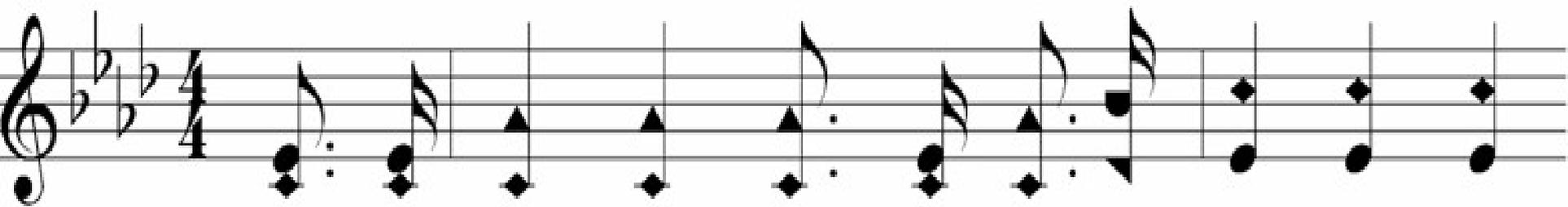
Let it shine

for ev - er - more.

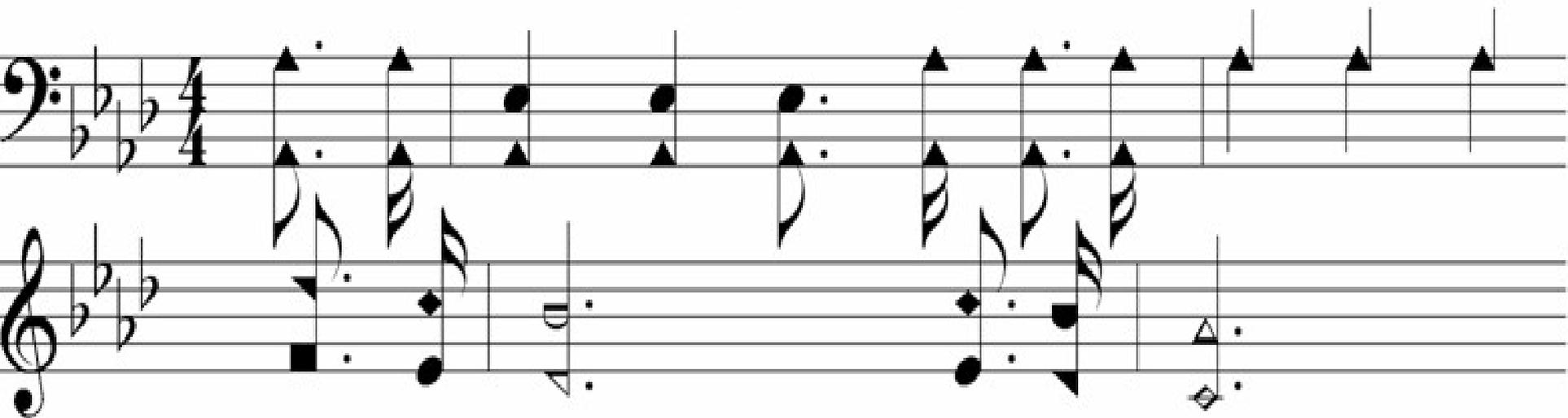
Let it shine

for ev-er-more.





Let us pray that grace may ev-'ry-where a-bound:

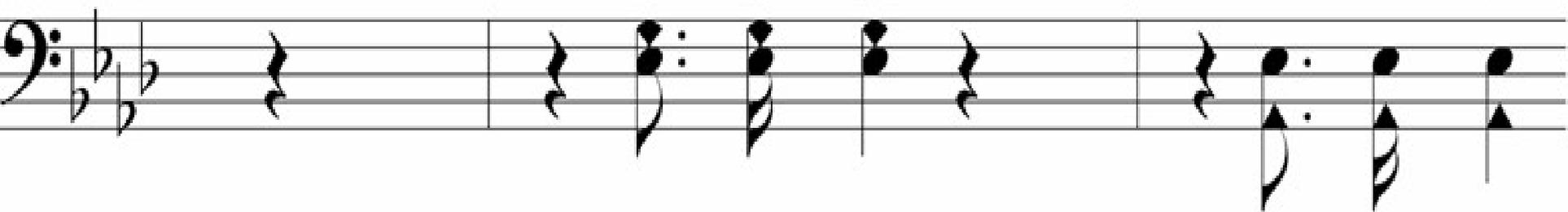


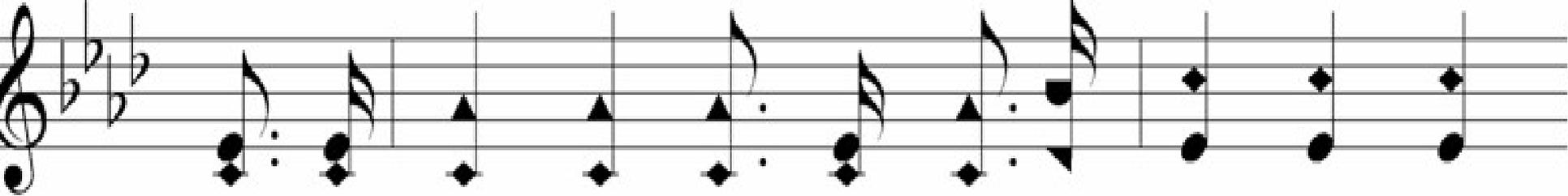
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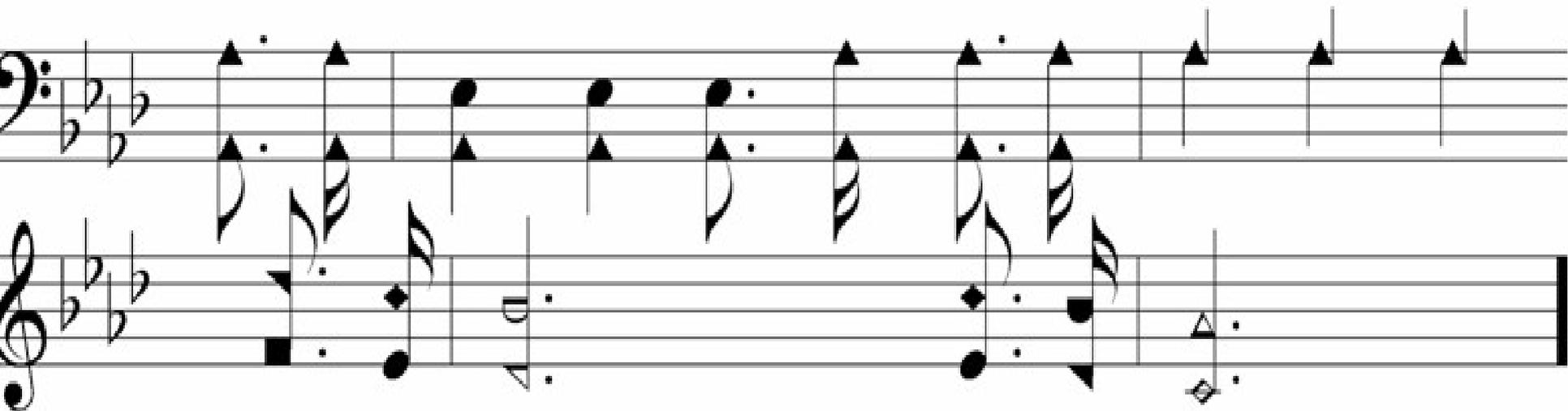
Send the light!

Send the light!





And a Christ-like spir - it ev - 'ry - where be found:

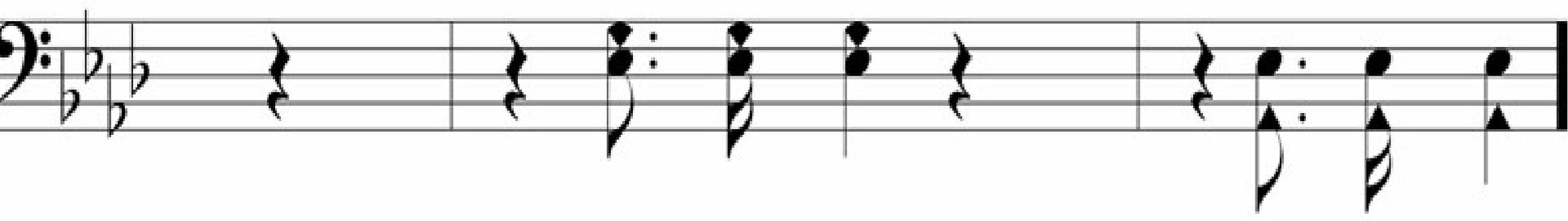


Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!

Send the light!



Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;
Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!
Let it shine from shore to shore!



Send the light!

the bless-ed gos - pel light;

Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;



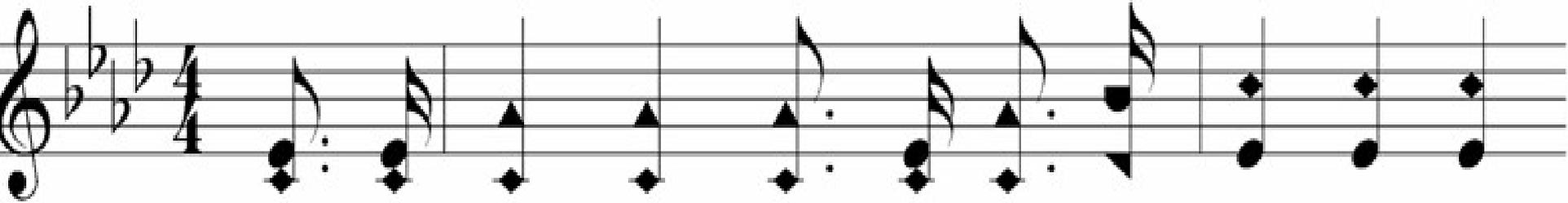
Let it shine

for ev - er - more.

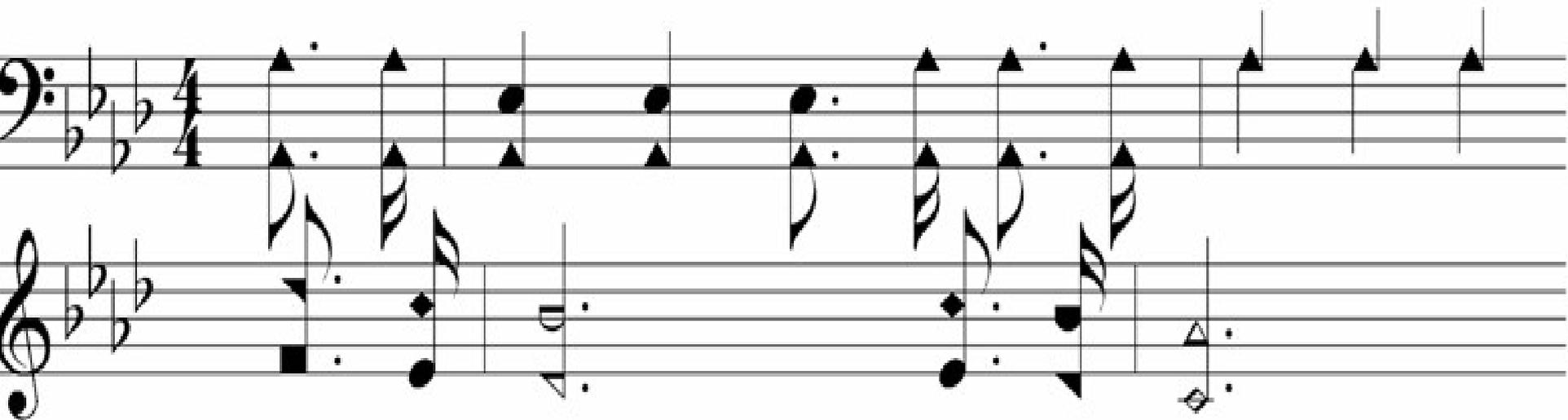
Let it shine

for ev-er-more.





Let us not grow wea - ry in the work of love:

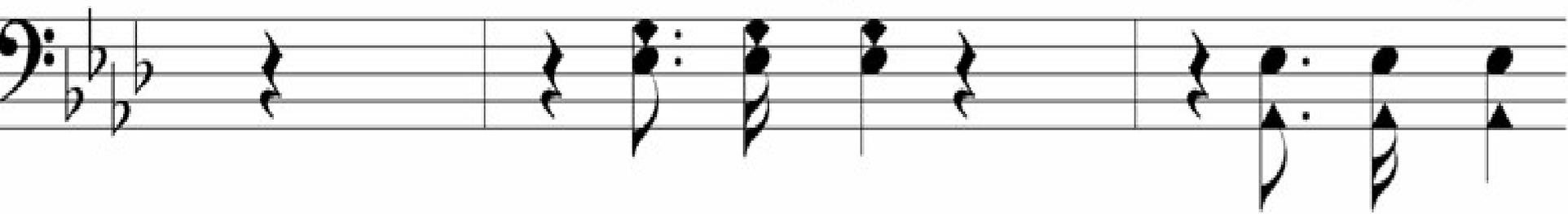


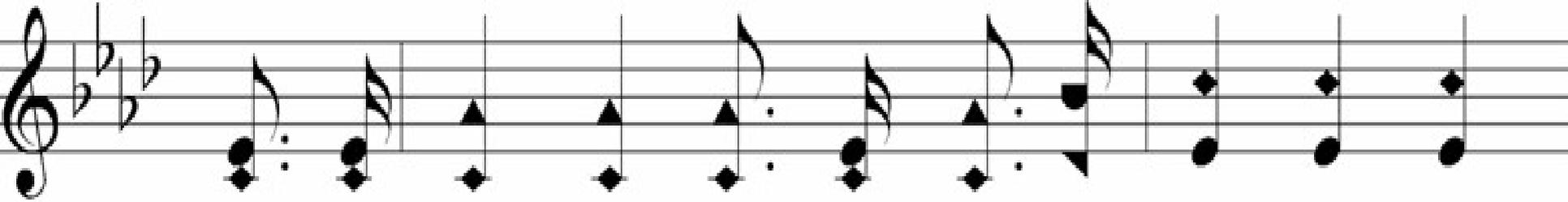
Send the light!

Send the light!

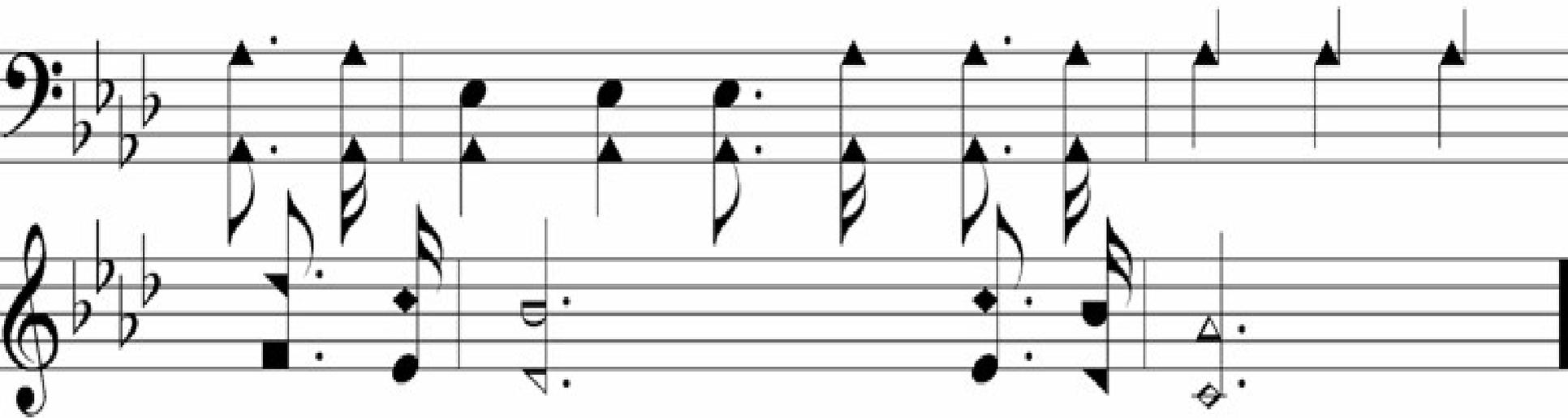
Send the light!

Send the light!





Let us gath - er jew - els for a crown a - bove:

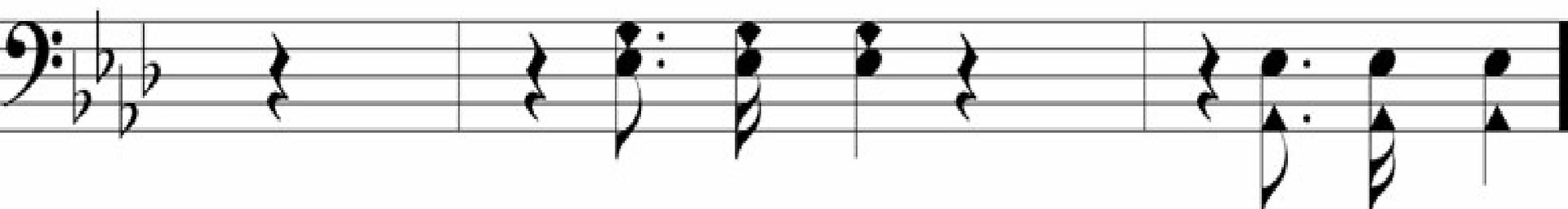


Send the light!

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Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;
Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;

Let it shine from shore to shore!
Let it shine from shore to shore!

Send the light! the bless-ed gos - pel light;

Send the light!

the bless-ed gos - pel light;

Send the light! the bless-ed gos-pel light;

Let it shine for ev - er - more.

Let it shine

for ev - er - more.

Let it shine

for ev-er-more.

CLOSING PRAYER.

To our visitors.

**We hope you have enjoyed
your time of fellowship
with us today.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS.