

## The Ideas Behind Christmas: DARKNESS

John 1:1-5, 9

Introduction: Without the reality of darkness there would be no Christmas at all.

## <u>Idea #1</u>: The world is in the <u>GRIP</u> of darkness.

- ⇒ What does that mean?
  - We are **VULNERABLE** (Genesis 2:15-17, 25).
  - We are <u>SUSPICIOUS</u> of God (Genesis 3:1-5).
  - We are REBELS at heart (Genesis 3:6).
  - We are **BROKEN** (Genesis 3:8-12).
  - We are TRAPPED (Genesis 3:14-19).
- ⇒ What does this have to do with Christmas?
  - It eliminates our naïve ROMANTICISM.
  - It restores our **WONDER** and **GRATITUDE**.

## **Concluding Questions:**

- ⇒ Do you take the darkness in your soul seriously enough?
- $\Rightarrow$  Are you filled with wonder and gratitude? If not, what's getting in the way?