



REFLECTIONS

September 18, 2022

**"But may they who love you be like the sun
when it rises in its strength."**

Judges 5:31

Shining Your Light

Its light begins to glow beneath the horizon, sometimes its brightness becomes blinding, sometimes it filters through banks of wispy clouds, and sometimes the sun reaches deep for strength to sift enough light through thick masses of misty shadows to awaken the world. But always it musters light enough to let us know it's there to bring life to a new day.

The sun is such an amazing part of creation. We think of it as our source of light. But Jesus is that. He uses the sun to fill the days with brightness—brightness to bring life to God's world. It helps flowers bloom, causes plants to reach out their wavy arms to strengthen their leaves that give them breath; and people bask in its warmth to energize their souls.

Yet as amazing as the sun is, mankind is God's masterpiece—you and I, and all other believers who live today, those who traveled this world before us, and all who are yet to come. God even sent light into the world through his son so we may see and feel the touch of his love. "While I am in the world I am the light of the world," Jesus said while giving life to the eyes of a man born blind (John 9:5) Remember, He also said, "You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14)

God places the Light of the world on us and asks us each to "let your light shine before [mankind], that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) Then as He often does, He makes it simple to do.

"Let your light shine..." There's something comfortable about that, isn't there. Your light is already there. You need not *make* it shine; only allow it to. Then who knows what God will do with its brightness. The light from your love may glow like the sun when it rises in its strength.

And the strength of its brightness can bring life to the eyes of men born blind.

"You are the light of the world,"

Richard +

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