

Synod 10/5/70 After Darkness - Reformation

"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was light and the light was the light of men, and the light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehended it not . . . That was the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the word.

Our distinguished Vice-Moderator (faded out) . . .

I'm not sure our Vice-Moderator was quite correct when he said we have a message on Reformation. The subject which I was assigned is "After Darkness - Reformation." I'm not quite sure if you'll decide when I get through whether it was a message on reformation or a message on darkness, or a message on something in between the two that I want to speak about also.

It's wonderful to have a subject assigned to you. So often we spend half our time trying to think what we're going to talk about. But when you are given a subject like this, all you have to do is to try to exegete the subject and decide what it means and ~~what~~ what you should give in connection with that. "After darkness reformation." I thought of two ways of going after it. One was to think of world history -- after darkness, reformation. Another was to think of my own life experience -- after darkness reformation. I'm going to try to do a little of both.

First, we'll look at world history -- after darkness. When did the great darkness begin to come. We think back to when the disciples began to go out and carry the Word of God, and when little by little here and there and there came to know Jesus Christ as Saviour. The word spread. At the end of 50 years there were a few hundred people who knew Christ. At the end of 150 years