December 19

2 Corinthians 4: 6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Brethren, catch this one phrase, God "commanded the light to shine out of darkness." Child of God, are you suffering in some dark trial? Has some dark sickness taken its toll on your body? Is there some dark calamity fallen over you and your family? God commands the light to shine out of darkness.

All we have to do is remember what we were when Christ sent the gospel to us. We were total darkness. As the world fell from how God originally created it, so that it was without and form and void, so we fell from how God created Adam so that the nature we received from Adam was only a lifeless, formless, void. Our minds were darkness; our hearts were darkness; our affections were darkness. But God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness in the beginning of this world, shined in our hearts. Doing so, he gave us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. For the first time, we saw God's glory shining as the noon day sun. We saw it when, by faith, we saw the face of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When we think what God did in giving us light to behold Christ, may it remind us in whatever darkness has befallen us that God turns the water of affliction into the wine of heavenly consolation. He makes poverty riches and sickness health. Sometimes darkness is good in that it blinds us from everything that is unnecessary. His light makes us focus on the one thing needful. May God once again command the light to shine out of darkness; may he shine in our hearts and give us light to behold that if we have the Lord Jesus Christ then all is Light.