

Welcome Sight of Sunrise

This has been *some* winter around the country, with New England struggling because of record amounts of snowfall and the remainder of the nation dealing with a variety of weather issues.

Here in Tennessee, weeks of unusually cold temperatures and a few mornings of ground-covering, school-closing snow have marked the season.

Through it all, sunrise – shining its beams through the window on a cold winter's morning – is a welcome sight. Even if the air outside is icy cold, sunrise gives the illusion of warmth.

With the rising sun, the city opens its shutters and prepares for the day. In the country, farm animals are let out to pasture. Children are off to school, adults are on their way to work, and each has a different perspective of the sunrise.



Sunrise happens whether we see it or not. Clouds may cover the sky completely and we are unable to experience the beauty of the sunbeams as they make their way to the earth. No matter what the climate, the sun still rises in the eastern horizon and sets over the west.

Sunrise is on God's clock, and it is ours to enjoy in the early mornings when we can see it clearly. It is just

as much there for us to enjoy when the cloud shadows cover it. We can trust it to be there – although it may be hidden for a while.

We can also trust God to be there every morning, every afternoon and every evening because He is the one, irrefutable reality in this life, and He remains constant and true.

Helen Steiner Rice, prolific writer of inspirational poetry, gave us a beautiful poem on this subject:

*Life is a mixture of sunshine and rain,
Laughter and teardrops, pleasure and pain –
Low tides and high tides, mountains and plains,
Triumphs, defeats and losses and gains.
But there never was a cloud
That the Son didn't shine through
And there's nothing that's impossible
For Jesus Christ to do!*

(more)

Wherever you may be, enjoy the sunrise and the warmth it brings to your face and your soul.

Because of the tender mercy of our God ... the sunrise from on high will visit us (Luke 1:78 NASB).

– Beecher Hunter