



December 1
"The Now and Not Yet"
Steve Cuss

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:
Isaiah 9:2, 6-9

QUOTE:

"The church is not called to be a "change agent"—God is the agent of change. The Lord of the cosmos has already wrought the Great Exchange in his cross and resurrection, and the life of the people of God is sustained by that mighty enterprise. The calling of the church is to place itself where God is already at work. The church lives, therefore, without fear, in faith that the cosmic change of regime has already been accomplished."

—Flemming Rutledge

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How was your Thanksgiving? What went well? What was difficult?
2. When has 'escapism' been a gift to you? i.e., when has it been nice to 'step off the treadmill' and enjoy getting away from it all?
3. Have you had a difficult time and rather than always talk about it, just enjoy a 'normal' conversation? Tell us about that.
4. How about a difficult time where you saw God in the middle of it with you?
5. How does Jesus dying on the cross help you through difficult times?
6. How about Jesus' second coming?
7. Advent is living in darkness, anticipating the light. It is living between the 'now' and the 'not yet.' What does this bring to mind?