

Christmas 2023- No Ordinary Child

Isaiah 9:6-7

- Everyday across the earth countless number of souls enter into the world, each a beloved son or daughter of God and earthly parents, but only one child was born for all of us Jesus. For He was born on our behalf, as He didn't come so that His own needs would be taken care of, but so that our most personal need (the forgiveness of sin) would be met. Which is why the phrase in **verse 6** could be translated from the Hebrew as "**A Child is born for us**" as He was no ordinary Child.
- Here in chapter 6 Isaiah is going to describe the reason for the birth of Jesus Christ, and in doing so he is going to record five things about the coming Messiah. What is amazing about all of this is Isaiah is writing about someone that he has never met and will never meet this side of eternity, in fact what he is describing is not going to take place for another seven centuries. This is why the Bible is unlike any other book ever written, for it ties the **past, present, and future**, into one magnificent plan orchestrated by God before the world was ever created, amazing.
- **1st** thing we see is that **The Saviour will be born a child** - this showed both His humanity (a child is born), and His Deity (A Son is given). Jesus comes into this world but not as a King or conqueror, something that will bring attention unto Himself, no instead He comes as an unassuming baby.
- **2nd** **He will rule over God's people** – now the Prophet looks beyond the first coming of Christ and leaps ahead to the **2nd** coming of Christ and the Kingdom age when Messiah will reign in righteousness and justice from David's throne. In **2 Sam 7:16** God had promised David that his dynasty would be established forever, and this I fulfilled literally in Jesus Christ > **Lk 1:32-33**- The Angel Gabriel spoke to Mary explaining her Who Jesus was and what He will accomplish.
- **3rd** **He has five descriptive names that reveal His character** – **1. Wonderful**- means exceptional, everything Jesus does is good, right, and perfect, **2. Counselor**- Jesus wisdom which astonished the rabbis during His time, is inexhaustible, as there is no subject, or situation that we shouldn't be seeking the Lord for. **3. Mighty God**- establishes without a doubt that Jesus is God, **4. Everlasting Father**- this speaks of Jesus in relationship to time, in the Hebrew its translated "Father of eternity", **5. Prince of Peace**- only through Jesus can anyone experience peace.
- **4th** **The Messiah will have an eternal rule of peace and justice**- His rule will have no end, as it will go on forever, **Dan 7:13-14, Rev 11:15**- describe this rule and reign, also **Jer 23:5** says Jesus will maintain righteousness because His rule will conform to God's Holy character, and that which was once violent and dangerous will now become peaceful > **Is 11:6-9**.
- **5th** **This is all God's plan**- The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this, none of this is determined by man or nation, so the coming of the Millenium kingdom depends on God not Israel, or the antichrist, or global warming, its God and His Sovereignty.

- In knowing and understanding all this about Jesus coming into the world, what should our response be? **Lk 2:36:38**- this woman named Anna who had been a widow for many yrs, instead of looking for another husband as women in that time had a very difficult time surviving without one, she spent her time inside the temple serving and focusing on God. Because of her closeness with the Lord she needed no introduction but immediately recognized who Jesus was even though He was a baby, declaring to all who would listen that salvation is found in Him alone.
- No matter how old you are in the Lord this is how we should be living, not in self seeking and retirement, but in **service to the Lord**, and in **expectation of seeing the Lord**. This will cause us to become more spiritually discerning, being alert to the needs of others and using any opportunity that presents itself to share the good news of Jesus Christ.