

# The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES  
with Pastor Greg Formey



## God's Permanent Solution

Isaiah 9:6-7

Sunday, October 5, 2025

The Big Story is full of God's mercy and Israel's failure. They saw Him perform miracles over and over again, yet they chased the gods of the nations. They were desperate for answers to their questions and solutions to their problems.

They even demanded a king like the nations.

**1 Samuel 8:5-8, ESV - Appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.**

Little did they realize that the Lord was steadily working toward a permanent solution to their problems - a resolution that would change life forever.

Still, God promised hope: a faithful royal Son who would rule forever.

Ancient Near Eastern nations made treaties with their gods and kings. Israel had a better covenant with the living Lord. His answer was not some temporary patch. It was a permanent King.

### ISRAEL'S FAILURE

**Deuteronomy 29:24-26**

**24 all the nations will say, 'Why has the Lord done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?' 25 Then people will say, 'It is because they abandoned the covenant of the Lord, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, 26 and went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not known and whom he had not allotted to them. ESV**

This shows why judgment came: Israel left the covenant, served other gods, and bowed down. Idolatry was not an accident. It was deliberate.

In village life, elders met at the city gate to make decisions. Israel's elders later asked Samuel for a king "like all the nations." This is not different from young people going off to school and changing their values to fit in with the crowd. You may belong, but when it is said and done you lose. **Mark 8:36 - "And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?" NLT**

Household gods were common in homes across the ancient Mideast. Travelers kept for luck and good fortune. So Israel was called to destroy idols, not display them.

## **GOD'S PROMISE**

**Isaiah 9:6-7**

**6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.** ESV

This prophecy promised that a royal child carries the weight of sovereign rule. In the ancient world, a government official would at times carry a large key on the shoulder to show authority. So this King carries the government. He is called "Prince of Peace," ruling over whole-life restoration.

"Everlasting Father" is royal language for a protector who treats his people like His little children. It declares that He is a ruler who never ages, never fails, and never abandons.

Get the image of a failing bridge that has been patched again and again. Traffic still slowly deteriorates it. The only safe answer is a brand-new span with a flawless design. God's goal was not did not to patch Israel's heart. He eventually sent a flawless solution to carry us across to eternal life .

Do you trust Jesus to carry your life on his shoulder, or do you keep patching yourself with temporary fixes?

**Luke 1:32-33**

**He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David... and of his kingdom there will be no end."** ESV

## **Conclusion**

Israel failed, but God did not. He promised and sent a faithful King. Jesus carries the government on his shoulder and brings true shalom. So let us trust and follow the King who the permanent solution.