



# Christmas ORACLES

A WEARY WORLD REJOICES

## The Christmas Oracles Text

### **JESUS OUR LIGHT** | *Isaiah 7-9*

Isaiah's prophecy to King Ahaz about the coming exile for idolatrous Israel, but also God's promises of a Savior King who will deliver.

### **JESUS OUR REST** | *Isaiah 11:1-10*

Isaiah's prophecy of Jesus bringing ultimate righteousness and rest.

### **JESUS OUR MERCY** | *Isaiah 16:5, Isaiah 55*

Isaiah's description of Jesus' compassion and grace, and the new covenant that Jesus' birth will provide.

### **JESUS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS** | *Jer. 23:1-8, 33:14-22; Zec. 9:9-10:12, 12:8-10, 13:1, 14:8-9*

Select prophecies describing Jesus as our source of righteousness. Jeremiah prophesied to Judah (the southern part of Israel) before the 70 years of Babylonian captivity and exile. Zechariah prophesied to the same region after the captive Jews returned from Babylon 70 years later.

### **JESUS OUR PEACE** | *Ezekiel 34:22-26*

Ezekiel's prophecy was in Babylon during the exile to give the exiled Jews hope that God was sovereign in their hardship.

### **JESUS OUR GOD AND KING** | *Isaiah 7:14; Ezekiel 37:21-28*

See above regarding Ezekiel.

### **A SELECTION OF PROPHECIES ON JESUS AND SALVATION IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:**

Genesis 3:15, 9:27, 12:3, 22:18, 49:8-10; Numbers 24:17-19; 2 Samuel 7:12-29; Psalm 2, 89, 132; Amos 9:11-15; Micah 5:2 (Among many others)

## The Christmas Story in the New Testament

### **Matthew 1-2**

Begins with Jesus' lineage, tells the story of Joseph, and recounts the visit of the Magi.

### **Mark**

Does not include a Christmas narrative, but begins with the ministries of Jesus and John the Baptist.

### **Luke 1-2**

The story of Mary, Elizabeth, Zacharias, Bethlehem, shepherds, angels, and Jesus as a baby at the temple.

### **John 1:1-14**

The Cosmos View of Christmas and God becoming man.

### **Hebrews 1**

The description of Jesus being God in the flesh and God's way of speaking to man after the Old Testament.

# The Christmas Oracles Series

*How to Get the Most Out of This Journey*

These are the Christmas Oracles that we will be examining during December. I want to encourage you to dive into these passages in your personal study, which will prepare you for the series and bless your personal growth.

## **As you read, I encourage you to do the following:**

1. Read the given passage, but also read the section preceding and following each passage for context.
2. Read the passage in several English versions. Old Testament prophets can be difficult to follow. While I personally rely on the KJV as authoritative, I find it helps my understanding to read in the ESV, NLT, and perhaps others to ensure that I'm grasping the vernacular, syntax, and grammatical flow of a passage.
3. Read the study notes on these passages from a good study Bible. I recommend The Life Application Study Bible if you can invest into a good resource. There are also several free options online and through apps such as The Faith Life Study Bible, the ESV Study Bible, StudyBible.org and others.
4. Seek to understand what the author and earliest receivers would have understood, and ask these basic questions:
  - Who is writing?
  - To whom is this being written?
  - What is the historical context?
  - What is the essence of this message from God to these original recipients?
5. Then ask: *How does this message apply to my life today?* Understand the context before you seek to apply to modern life.



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## JESUS OUR LIGHT

OVERCOMING A WEARY WORLD OF DARKNESS

Pastor Cary Schmidt | Sunday, December 5, 2021

ISAIAH 9:2-7

*2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. 3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. 4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. 5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. 6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

HEBREWS 1:1-3

*1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;*

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**EMMANUEL**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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## 1. JESUS OUR LIGHT REVEALS THE \_\_\_\_\_

ISAIAH 8:16–22

16 Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. 17 And I will wait upon the LORD, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. 18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion. 19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? 20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. 21 And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry: and it shall come to pass, that when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God, and look upward. 22 And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness.

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## 2. JESUS OUR LIGHT OFFERS \_\_\_\_\_

ISAIAH 9:1–5

1 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. 2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. 3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. 4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. 5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

## 3. JESUS OUR LIGHT GIVES \_\_\_\_\_

ISAIAH 9:6–7

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

COLOSSIANS 1:19–20

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him . . .

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JOHN 8:12

12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.