

Isaiah 9:6-7
Unto Us A Child Is Born

- I The passage tells us about His character.
- A. They will call His name...
1. In Hebrew, a person's name had to do with his character.
 2. Barnes' Notes: "...*His attributes shall be such as to make all these applications appropriate descriptions of His power and work. To be called, and to be, in the Hebrew, often mean the same thing.*"
 3. All five attributes describe the character of this child.
- B. They will call His name Wonderful.
1. Barnes's Notes (quoting Hengstenberg): "*The proper idea of the word is miraculous. It imports that the personage here referred to, in his being and in his works, will be exalted above the ordinary course of nature, and that his whole manifestation will be a miracle.*"
 2. Adam Clarke: "*As...God manifested in the flesh, he was wonderful in his conception, birth, preaching, miracles, sufferings, death, resurrection, and ascension; wonderful in his person, and wonderful in his workings.*"
 3. Judges 13:1-18: "**And Manoah said to the angel of YHWH, "What is your name"...But the angel of YHWH said to him, "Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?"**"
 - a. He was wonderful in his conception — born of a virgin.
 - b. He was wonderful in his birth — born of humble parents in humble circumstances though He was King of Glory.
 - c. He was wonderful in His preaching — though many deny Him as God, they still marvel at His wisdom.
 - d. He was wonderful in His suffering and death — He suffered for each sinner who is saved and died for each of us that we might live.
 - e. He was wonderful in His resurrection — the tomb is empty.
- C. They will call His name Counselor.
1. Isaiah 11:1-3: **Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear...**
 2. Barnes' Notes: The word Counselor "*...is expressive of great wisdom, and of qualifications to guide and direct the human race.*"
 3. Virtually all religions and people acknowledge the wisdom of Jesus in counseling about life's circumstances.
- D. They will call His name Mighty God.
1. In Hebrew "El Gibbor."
 2. Deuteronomy 10:17: "**For YHWH your God is the god of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God...**"
 3. Isaiah 10:20-21: "**Now it will come about...that the remnant of Israel...will truly rely on YHWH, the Holy One of Israel. A remnant will return...to the mighty God.**"
 4. Jeremiah 32:18: "**O great and mighty God. YHWH of hosts is His name.**"
 5. Hebrew word "el" in Isaiah is always used of God/YHWH.

6. Jeremiah 23:5-6: **“Behold days are coming,” declares YHWH, “When I shall raise up for David a righteous Branch...And this is His name by which He will be called, YHWH our Righteousness.”**
 - a. 2 Corinthians 5:21: God **“...made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”**
 - b. That little child’s name was YHWH our righteousness.
 - c. It is ONLY in Him – clothed in His righteousness, that we can stand before God.

E. They will call His name Eternal Father.

1. Literally — Father of eternity.
2. God is eternal, without end.
3. God is infinite, without limits.

F. They will call His name Prince of Peace.

1. Prince of Shalom.
 - a. Word means much more than “no hostilities.”
 - b. It means complete blessing, health, and peaceful existence without stress.
2. He brings peace between men and peace between God and man.
3. Ephesians 2:14-16: Christ Jesus is **“...himself our peace, who made both (Jew and Gentile) one, and broke down the enmity, by abolishing in His flesh the Law, that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross...”**

II The passage tells us about His kingdom

A. His kingdom is eternal and peaceful.

1. Verse 7: **“there will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace.”**
2. The problem with earthly leaders is that they are finite; they die.
3. Anyone you depend on other than God will eventually go away.
 - a. Submarine crews depend on the Captain to lead and be an example to them.
 - b. Plunger CO was lost in a moment.
4. Only God, the infinite, **eternal** King is worth your trust.

B. His kingdom is one of justice.

1. He will establish it and uphold it with justice.
2. The problem with any earthly kingdom or justice system is that it will be corrupted by sinful men.
3. Only God is truly just in all judgments.

C. His kingdom is righteous.

1. Word means proper, objective, moral judgments.
2. God does not rule by emotion. He rules by holy, righteous, moral judgments.

D. His kingdom will be established by the zeal of YHWH.

1. Literally, the “glowing fire” of YHWH.
2. Keil & Delitzsch: *“It is two sided. The fire of love has for its obverse the fire of wrath.”*

III The passage tells us about His purpose.

A. The purpose of His birth was to demonstrate to us the love of God and to demonstrate how we should be as His people.

B. He was born in humility.

1. He set aside the glory of heaven and took on human flesh in a stable.
2. We, likewise, must set aside our pride and behave toward others in a humble way.
3. Philippians 2:3-11: **Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than**

himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

C. The Word of God became flesh.

1. John 1:9 teaches that He was the true light, which came into the darkness.
2. John 1:14: **And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us...full of grace and truth."**
3. He came to tell us what God was truly like.
4. We are His witnesses to spread that Good News to those who are still in darkness.
 - a. 2 Corinthians 4:6-7: **For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves...**
 - b. 2 Corinthians 5:20: **Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.**

D. He came as our Savior.

1. Luke 2:11: **"...for today in the city of David was born for you a Savior, who is Christ the LORD."**
2. God sent a Savior because we all need saving.
 - a. Because of sin, we are hostile to God.
 - b. Jesus Christ paid the price for our sin. He is our Propitiatory.
 - 1) That little child grew up to die on a cross.
 - 2) That little child came to earth to suffer the eternal wrath of God for you and I.
 - 3) That little child broke down the wall erected by our sin that separates us from God.
 - c. Only He can bring you into the presence of the Eternal Father.
3. Jesus said in John 14:6: **I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.**
 - a. This Christmas season as we remember the birth of that little child;
 - 1) Instead of trusting in presents and lights and festivities, will you trust completely in the One who is our only Savior?
 - 2) Will you promise to love, honor, and obey the One who loved us enough to suffer and die for us?