

## The Promise of the Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6

We are quickly approaching Christmas day. No doubt this week will be filled with those who are making last minute preparations for all that Christmas involves. There are gifts to buy, meals to prepare, and guest lists to finalize.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year that we all enjoy. It is a time when we have the opportunity to gather with our friends and loved ones in celebration of the birth of our Savior. However, if we aren't very careful we will allow the busyness of the season and the emphasis on gifts to cloud our vision of what we are truly celebrating. I fear that many will have a birthday celebration and forget the honored Guest. May we be careful in the coming days to keep the emphasis on Christ and what His coming to earth means to us. Had He not come and submitted to the Father's will, we would have little to celebrate in this life.

We have read one verse this morning from the prophet Isaiah. He lived some 700 years prior to the birth of Christ and yet he was already looking forward to that glorious day when God would become flesh and dwell among men. I want to take a few moments to examine this verse of Scripture as we seek to discover the profound truth it reveals concerning: [The Promise of the Prince of Peace](#).

**I. His Salvation** – [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.](#) What comfort and hope we find in this verse of Scripture. [For unto us a child is born. Our blessed Lord came to redeem us from our sin; He came to ransom the lost from condemnation.](#) This was not a fact finding mission. Christ did not come to discover the affairs of men so that He might report back to the Father. He came with a plan and a purpose, to save humanity from their sins!

▪ [Mat.1:21 – And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Jn.3:16 – For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.](#) Christ came for me; He came for you; He came for whosoever! Isn't that a blessing? Christ came so that we might be saved and forgiven of our sin. He came so that we might be reconciled to the Father. Christ came for us!

**II. His Submission** – [For unto us a child is born.](#) Many times we fail to see the enormity of His incarnation. We are not talking about a child that was born and achieved greatness in this life. We are talking about the Son of God, the second person of the Godhead, laying aside the glory that He possessed and veiling His deity in a body of flesh. The King of glory humbled Himself to be born of a virgin and dwell among men. He willingly left the splendors of heaven to come and dwell upon this earth, knowing that He would have no place to call His own, that

He would be misunderstood and rejected, ultimately being condemned to death and dying upon a cross.

- I don't know about you, but it humbles me when I pause and consider all that Jesus did so that we might be saved. That certainly sheds new light on our petty complaints and difficulties. [Phil.2:7 – But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:](#)

## **I. His Salvation**

## **II. His Submission**

**III. His Sacrifice** – [unto us a Son is given.](#) Keep in mind that this was no ordinary child; this was the Son of God, given for the sins of the world. God the Father offered His only begotten Son so that we might receive salvation.

- Christ wasn't asked to come and dwell among men just to heal the sick, raise the dead, and give counsel to the wayward. These were all great and powerful miracles that He performed, but that is not why He came. Christ came to offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice for sin. He came to purchase our redemption on the cross! [Phil.2:8 – And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.](#)
- The cross was not some horrible accident. It was not an event that happened when things got out of hand. It was not Plan B in God's great wisdom. From the moment that Christ was born, Calvary was in view. He was well aware that in God's time He would lay down His life for mankind according to God's foreordained plan. [Is.53:10a – Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief:](#)

**IV. His Sovereignty** – [and the government shall be upon his shoulder.](#) This is likely one of the passages that caused confusion among the Jews as Christ dwelt upon the earth. They were looking for a King to deliver them from the bondage of Rome. Isaiah is looking beyond the life and death of Christ to His future reign here upon the earth.

- For many who viewed the life of Christ it appeared that He was a failure. He rose from obscurity, coming from among poverty. He never sat upon a throne as far as human government is concerned. His ministry only lasted a few years and He was put to death. Many believed that it was over at the tomb. Our blessed Lord bled and died upon the cross and He was buried.
- But praise His holy name the tomb was not the end. He completely fulfilled the will of God by offering Himself a sacrifice for humanity. His life and death were in accordance to God's sovereign plan. He came the first time as a sacrificial Lamb, being despised and rejected of His own. He was scourged and crucified with a crown of thorns upon His head. Those who looked on that day might have thought that Christ was a failure and false prophet.

▪ I rejoice that that is not all in regard to the plan of God. He is coming again, and the second time there won't be a crown of thorns, only a crown of glory. He will come in great power to establish His kingdom here upon the earth. He may have been rejected the first time, but He will be honored and worshipped at His second coming! [Rev. 1:7 – Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. Phil.2:9-11 – Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: \[10\] That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; \[11\] And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.](#) That surely doesn't sound like one who is defeated, but One who possesses all power!

## **I. His Salvation**

## **II. His Submission**

## **III. His Sacrifice**

## **IV. His Sovereignty**

**V. His Supremacy** – [and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.](#) Here Isaiah describes that Name that is above every name. He is called:

**A. Wonderful** – This has the idea of being *supernatural and extraordinary*. Clearly there is nothing ordinary or common about our Lord. He is the exalted Savior! As I ponder His blessings and benefits, I realize that none have done for me what Christ has done. He alone secured my salvation. He has reconciled me to God and promised me eternal life in heaven. What is ordinary about that? Is our Lord not wonderful?

**B. Counselor** – This speaks of Christ being our *Guide and Stay*. It literally means “*to advise, counsel, devise, and plan.*” I don't know about you, but I am glad for the direction and counsel of my Lord. I am glad that He didn't save me and expect me to make it through this life on my own. I am glad that I don't have to make decisions for my family without His counsel. As long as we walk in the ways of God, we are heading in the right direction. [Ps.37:23 – The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.](#) I rejoice that He has ordered my steps! Who better to follow than the Creator of this world and all it contains?

**C. Mighty God** – This speaks of Christ being the *Strong One, the I AM, the Conqueror, the One who is mighty and invincible. At Christmas we think of Christ as the humble babe in a manger, but He is the Mighty God.*

- He is in control of our lives. We don't live by luck or circumstances, but the I AM is guarding and guiding our way. There is nothing to fear when Christ the Lord is in control. He is the One who set the stars in the heavens, set the bounds of the oceans, and breathed life into mankind, His creation. Surely we can trust One such as He. [Ps.27:1 – The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?](#)

**D. The Everlasting Father** – [and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. We are not serving one who has no wisdom or lacks experience.](#) We are serving the eternal God. [Rev.1:8 – I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Jn.8:58 – Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.](#)

- There has never been a time when God didn't exist. He existed long before time began and He will remain long after time is no more. God has always been and He will always be! That brings comfort to my heart. I am not serving one who is here today and gone tomorrow. We need not fear the demise or weakness of our Lord. He is God and He will never change. [Heb.13:8 – Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Mal.3:6a – For I am the Lord, I change not;](#)

**E. Prince of Peace** – Keep in mind that Isaiah is looking toward the coming Kingdom during the Millennial Reign. It is during that time that Jesus will establish His kingdom and bring peace to the earth.

- That is yet to come in our future, but we can enjoy His peace even now. There is much in life that humanity must face, but for the believer there is peace even in the midst of adversity. I have no way of knowing what tomorrow may hold, but I do know who holds tomorrow. He provides peace that this world cannot give. [Jn.16:33 – These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. Phil.4:7 – And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.](#)

As we look toward Christmas, it is my prayer that we will remember and worship the Christ of Christmas. He is the reason for the season. Had there been no birth, there would have been no death, and there would be no life. Let that sink in for just a moment. All that we have we owe to Christ.

I want to give you an opportunity to respond to the Lord today. If you are here and you have failed to honor the Lord, why not come to Him and worship. If you have never accepted Christ as your Savior, then you can't truly embrace Christmas. If He has called to you in salvation, why not come and receive Him today?