

Isaiah

The Lord Is Salvation

**THE KING
Is
Coming!**

Isaiah 9:1-7

Lesson Sixteen

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum

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THE KING Is Coming!

Our last lesson ended with Israel in the dark. Isaiah told them that no matter where they looked, there would be darkness...thick darkness. But, a new day is coming. The first verse of the ninth chapter connects what has gone before with what is coming next. In the north, the territory assigned to the tribes of Naphtali (Naf' -tu-lee) and Zebulun (Zeb' -U-lun) now had become part of the Assyrian (As-sir' -E-un) Empire. These territories were just to the north and west of the Sea of Galilee. It was a sad day. But later God will bring a glorious dawn. The darkness will be gone. THE KING, Jesus, will come!

Some see this prophesy as being written to celebrate the coming to the throne of an earthly king. Maybe Hezekiah, King of Judah. But there are many things in the prophesy that make it difficult to believe that. This king is the Son of God; He is called by names that would demand more than any earthly king could do; His kingdom would have no end. Read Isaiah 9:1-7

So, in the middle of defeat and darkness, God shines a great light. Faith breaks forth like the sunrise after the darkest of nights. God will not leave His people in darkness. The territories now would be the home base of a new King. The territory once occupied by Naphtali and Zebulun would become Galilee in New Testament days and Jesus would make Galilee the home base of His ministry.

Verses two through seven are some of the most beautiful and positive of all that Isaiah wrote. They are the basis for many musical presentations of the Christmas story. They are read from church pulpits around the world every year at Christmas.

When this Light shines, the world will rejoice. The joy will be like that of the celebration of a great harvest. When the crops were gathered, the wheat, corn or whatever the crop was divided (the Bible refers to dividing up the plunder). A great harvest meant more for everyone. It was a very happy day. Everyone took home a big "paycheck."

We have mentioned in previous lessons times when there was little to eat, of soldiers who came and destroyed the people, their homes and crops, making slaves of the best people. Those days would be gone. The burdens would be lifted and the foreign armies would be gone.

Because, a child would be born! But this is not just any child. As Isaiah saw it, with his limited human understanding of things, it would be the child of an earthly king, like Ahaz and

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Hezekiah. God was giving him a sign, a great promise. Isaiah just saw it as closer than it really was. This is not uncommon to writers of the Bible. Paul, in the New Testament, believed that Jesus would return to earth any day.

But God was making a promise that would take place seven hundred years from Isaiah's day. This child would be a Son...we see now that He is the Son of God. The government would be on his shoulders. Isaiah saw that as the role of a King. We should understand government as meaning authority. Jesus said, in Matthew 29:18, "All authority has been given to me in Heaven and on earth." Now, that is about all the authority there is.

Then Isaiah said that His name would be called:

Wonderful Counselor—His is the source of all wisdom.

Mighty God—He has all God's power.

Everlasting Father—He is a Father forever...or Father of eternity.

Prince of Peace—He is the one who provides wellness or wholeness...no flaws.

Two things to note: The words wonderful and counselor should not be separated, they make more sense together. And peace, as the Hebrews saw peace, was much more than the end of war. To them, peace meant completeness, wholeness, health, satisfaction, the end of all things that destroy the peace.

Finally, Isaiah heard from the Father, "Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end." When Jesus came to earth, He began His eternal reign. He is and will be King **forever**. When He went back to Heaven, God invited Him to sit down on His right side. That means that Jesus has the place of honor in Heaven. From that place, He is making sure that all things work out the way He wants them to work out. He continues to this day, guiding the world to the conclusion He has planned.

Someday, He will return and sit on an earthly throne. He will reign over all the world in plain sight. No one and nothing can stop that. Because, it will be accomplished by the "zeal of the Lord almighty." The word "zeal" here means that all things will go God's way. He will get it done. **THE KING IS Coming!**

*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

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Scripture Memory: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders and He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

Lesson Goal: To show students God's promise of a true king for all the world.

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Student Worksheet

THE KING Is Coming — Isaiah 9

As the teacher goes through the lesson, listen for answers to these:

1. Why is it difficult to believe that this prophesy is about a human king?
2. What did the territory once occupied by Naphtali and Zebulun become in New Testament days?
3. What do the following names mean?
Wonderful Counselor -
Mighty God -
Everlasting Father -
Prince of Peace -

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How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God’s Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus’ name. Jesus’ death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.