

God Is Crazy About Us

Isaiah 9:6-7

Intro

Our text in Isaiah tells us that the Christmas story began long before the birth of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah received the promised word from God and it was recorded in Isaiah 9:6-7. There were other prophets in the Bible who were told of the birth of Jesus.

Jeremiah 23:5-6

“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

This is incredible. The prophet Jeremiah spoke this word from God 800 years before the birth of Jesus.

There are more than 500 prophetic verses and passages that deal with the first coming of Christ. These prophecies were recorded hundreds of years before Christ was born:

- His birth predicted (Gen. 3:15 & Gal. 4:4)
- Place of His birth, Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- He would be called Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14)
- Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
- He would be preceded by John the Baptist (Isaiah 40:3)
- His triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Zech. 9:9)
- Betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9)
- Crucified with sinners (Isaiah 53:12)
- Hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16)
- His resurrection (Psalm 16:10)
- His ascension (Psalm 68:18)

In Isaiah 9:6-7, we have one of those unusual verses in which the names of Messiah are all grouped together. In this passage we have more names of Messiah crowded into these two verses than we do anywhere else in the entire Bible. These verses describe to us the character and nature of Messiah.

Isaiah 9:6 “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.”

First of all notice it says *“a child is born.”* This speaks of His humanity. Jesus was a real human being, He was a man. The writer of Hebrews says that He was as human as any man. He took upon Himself flesh. Paul said in Philippians 2:8, *“He humbled himself and was found in fashion as a man.”*

The writer of Hebrews 4:15 says, *“He was in all points tempted like as we are yet without sin.”* Because He was human and because He felt what we feel and because He hurt where we hurt - He is able to help us; He is able to be sympathetic with us; and He's a faithful and sympathetic high priest. He was human and He had to be a human because He had to die in humanity's place. He had to bear humanity's sin. He had to feel humanity's pain.

Notice the second phrase, *“unto us a son is given”*. He was given unto us.

John 3:16, *“For God so loved the world he gave us His only begotten Son...”* Not only is Jesus the reason for the season so are we. God gave his Son unto us!

Isaiah 9:6 “and the government will be on his shoulders.”

He is destined to exercise supreme rule over the universe. Colossians 1:16-17 states the power and authority of Christ over the world and governments, it says, “*For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*”

The government of the entire world is said to rest upon His shoulders. This speaks of the security of those who put their trust in Him. It also speaks of the future when Christ will establish His earthly kingdom – a theocracy.

Isaiah 9:6 “And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.”

Christ’s perfections are indicated by His names, look at them: Wonderful Counselor, and those two should go together, a Wonderful Counselor. Many today search for wisdom; they search for answers; they search for the meaning of life; they search for solutions to their problems. They go to psychologists, analysts, counselors. They read books, they try everything, they seek psychics, but in the end many don’t get the complete help that they really need.

The world is lacking deep spiritual wisdom and direction. The Word of God says that He is the Wonderful Counselor. I offer you Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the perfect Counselor. You see, as God He knows everything. Wouldn't you like to have a counselor who knew everything about you? His counsel goes beyond the merely human side of us – its goes deep into our soul. Colossians 2:3 says, “*...in Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*”

He knows all about you; He knows all the needs of your heart; He knows how to answer those needs. He knows what's best for you; and He gives you wise counsel. Look at His teachings – they are a light to our path and life.

He knows what you need. Jesus Christ is a Wonder of a Counselor. But you know there's got to be more to it than just that too. It's nice to have a counselor, BUT also one who's constantly faithful, who never leaves nor forsakes you. He's there all the time and every moment of your life.

Isaiah 9:6 “Mighty God,

But more than just a Counselor you need strength and power, and that we see in the second name. He's also the Mighty God. He can not only tell you what to do but He can empower you to do it.

Human counsel can only go so far. It stops at the point of power and that's where the Mighty God comes in. He not only counsels us but He has full divine power to act in our behalf. This given Son, God's unspeakable gift is given to us to empower us through life. He is God!

Philippians 4:13 “*I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*”

He is capable of defeating sin and death; and healing the sick. He is capable of redeeming people; of subduing the earth and all of its kingdoms and reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. He is power beyond power. And all that power is moved in behalf of you and me - those who love Him and know Him.

Colossians 1:16-17, “*For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.*” ¹⁷ *He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*”

Isaiah 9:6 “Everlasting Father.”

The next thing it says about Christ – and this is so beautiful – He is the Everlasting Father. He is the “*Father of Eternity*,” or, “*The Father of the Coming Age*.” The Son is not to be confounded with the Father, though He and the Father are one (John 10:30). But He is the One in whom all the ages meet (Hebrews 1:2), therefore, He is rightfully designated, “*The Father of the Ages*.” Father also conveys not only that He is Creator but also Protector and Sustainer of creation.

Father also means that he is the author of life and giver of life. Colossians 1:16, says that *all things were created through him and for him*.

Adam was the father of the human race whereas Jesus is the Father of life and eternity. 1 Corinthians 15:22 says, “*For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.*”

Isaiah 9:6 “Prince of Peace.”

Next He is called the Prince of Peace, and His Kingdom is peace. He came to bring peace. He gives peace between humanity and God. When you come to Christ the war is over; the rebellion has ended, and you're at peace with God. Romans 5:1 says, *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...*

He also puts peace in your heart, an inner rest, a peace that surpasses all understanding.

Christ will come again someday to bring a Kingdom of peace where He will reign as Prince and King. Paul says in Ephesians 2:14, “*He himself is our peace.*” This is what humanity wants. Here it is - it's all here. The world wants wise counsel; they want the power to overcome and be victorious; they want eternal life; they want to know there's life beyond the grave; and they want peace in their hearts.

It's no coincidence that Christ's names fulfill every desire of humanity. He is the desire of the nations. He is the Wonderful Counselor that you need in every trial of life. He is the Mighty God who can help you and empower you. He is the Father of eternity who gives you eternal life. He is the Prince of Peace who not only plants peace within your heart but brings peace between you and God.

Isaiah 9:7 “Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”

And then lastly, He is the peaceful Sovereign. In Isaiah 9:6 it says that “*The government shall be upon his shoulder,*” that means the government of the earth will be the final Kingdom of Christ. The peaceful Sovereign, “*Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne.*” He has the right to rule, He is David's heir, and upon His throne there will be complete order and justice and righteousness from henceforth and forever.

People always say, when is the world going to have peace; and when are the justices going to be meted out the way they ought to be? There's coming a Kingdom and Jesus Christ will reign in justice and righteousness. The King is coming! He came once and offered His Kingdom and people nailed Him to a cross, but He'll be back. He'll be back to bring His Kingdom, it will be brought, and established on earth. Finally we will have peace!

Zeal “The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”

Zeal of the Lord is found about 5 times in the Bible.

Zeal is defined as: passion, ardor, love, fervor, fire, devotion, enthusiasm, eagerness, keenness, relish, vigor, energy, and intensity. That describes the Lord.

What Isaiah is saying by this statement is that the prophecy of this passage and the coming of Messiah will not be realized in the ordinary course of affairs. It will only happen because of God's passionate involvement with His people. God has a consuming concern for the well-being of His people. He is crazy about us!! This powerful statement tells us that God loves His people intensely. God's ardent, fervent love for His Son and for His people will bring all this to pass.

John 3:16 "*For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son...*"

Someone once said that: "God is crazy about you. If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If God had a wallet, your photo would be in it. He sends you flowers every spring, and a sunrise every morning."

Whenever you want to pray to Him He listens. He could have chosen to live anywhere in the universe, but He chose to live in your heart. Face it, God is crazy about you.

Conclusion

Let me close with just picking out 2 words out of verse 6 that are repeated twice "*For **to us** a child is born, **to us** a son is given.*" Who's the us? To whom is this child given? To those who believe and receive Him.

Not only is Jesus the reason for the season we too are the reason for the season. The Saviour has come – receive Him and all that He offers to you.