

# “His Name is Wonderful!”

Isaiah 9:6

**Intro.** – When Isaiah penned these words under the inspiration of God, it was a disastrous period of history. Doom and gloom were everywhere. Things looked and seemed utterly hopeless; but, God’s tender mercies and abundant grace provided a sweet hope for the future. This same sweet hope is the hope we too can possess. That hope is ground in no One less than our Lord Jesus the Christ!

Set in the blackness of the prophet’s complaints against Judah and the impending capture/captivity of Jerusalem, God’s most precious of promised jewels gleams. Listen to the beauty of this gem: Isaiah 9:1-7

We can’t help but see the correlation to our own days which candidly are full gloom, but we too are on the brink of the brightest moment in history – the return of our Lord! Before this can come about; however, other events must take place. We know the account: “a Son has been given!” A woman could not and cannot give birth to God, but she can bear a child and that child can be the mysterious embodiment of God in the flesh – the Son of God. That Son was given to us from heaven!

Among the names that adorn Him is the name we are looking at today – *Wonderful*. Now, many people and things have names of which they are not worthy (e.g. “Magic Johnson”... “Vega”... “Faultless” (lawyer in Richmond). But, as we grow in Christ we learn more and more that Jesus is altogether worthy of the names given to Him. He is *Wonderful* even as this name declares!

*Purpose: to see why Jesus is appropriately called “Wonderful”*

Scholars throw some light on this matter for us. The word “wonderful” can be rendered “marvelous” or “miraculous.” Another possibility is “distinguished one.” Yet, most translations stick with the term “wonderful.” With this in mind we can see why this name is so appropriate for Jesus in the following 3 reasons:

## I Consider His Past

### A. His Divine Nature

1. We need to ponder the *eternalness* of the Son of God:
  - a. He is not MADE of God, but He is BEGOTTEN of God = He is co-eternal and co-equal with the Father and Holy Spirit...
  - b. He Who became a babe is also Creator of the Universe!
  - c. He Who stepped into time did so FROM eternity!
2. We need to struggle with the fact that He was and is God:
  - a. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords... we need to struggle in trying to understand this more and more.
  - b. what a wonder – the very nature of Jesus is both man and God!!

### B. His Incarnation

1. A miracle is poured out on Bethlehem the day of Christ’s entrance into this life.
2. Imagine, the Creator... carried in a woman’s arms – Infinite and infant; eternal yet born; Lord of all, but reputed to be the son of Joseph; Heir of All things,, but thought of as just a carpenter’s son..
3. Following His ministry we see: miracles... acceptance... rejection... illegal trials, jeering and taunting from His enemies... they blaspheme Him, but He bears it all. What is your response?
4. We see Him die? Review the crowd... thorns on His head... the cross... His own disciples forsake Him... Is this not a wonder? Is He not Wonderful?!
5. See Him also risen...! This brings us to the next point!

## II Consider His Present

- at this point every person must tell their own story. It varies amongst each of us; yet, still much same...
- let me tell you my own story. He is *wonderful* to me, right now, because of the following reasons:

#### A. Time of Ignorance

1. Though reared in a Christian home... there was a time I was literally “ignorant of Christ...”
2. Soon after this, the dreaded enemy tempted me and my freedom and innocence were changed:
  - a. *I was once alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died (Romans 7:9)*
  - b. This enemy slew me. I had nothing and was nothing!
  - c. Maybe if I say I’m sorry... maybe if I do a lot of good works... No! Law had exacted upon me the condemnation for which it was designed = death!

#### B. Time of Repentance

1. I then began to realize my need for a Savior and was led to the Cross of Christ... I learned of God’s grace there through family... Bible School teachers and youth leaders...
2. Acceptance was my response and burdens were lifted at Calvary... Paul Nichols was given a new start... it was then I began to really live...

#### C. Time of Reflection

1. From that hour to this *NEVER ONCE* has Jesus ever failed me. Though I’ve miserably failed Him..
2. He has never broken a promise and has always followed through when most needed. Is that not a wonderful savior?!
3. And through all my Christian Experience... I find Him more Wonderful and more amazing today than ever before!

### III Consider His Future

- though not a prophet or the son of a prophet, I view the passing times as evidence His return is coming
- Scripture refers to every passing day as a day closer to that wonderful day!

#### A. Look at What Lies Ahead

1. The return of Christ to receive His own...!
2. A grand reunion of the saints of old...!
3. All sorrow will cease, tears will be dried, and forever His people will stand in the presence of Him Whom Scripture calls “*Wonderful.*”

#### B. Look Further at What Lies Ahead

1. Unforgiven need to think of their astonishment and wonderment when they see Jesus!
  - a. Judas, what do you say of your “kiss of betrayal now”?...
  - b. Madilyn O’Hare, where is that arrogance you once displayed in contempt toward the very existence of Christ?...
  - c. Adolf Hitler, what of your feared armies that terrorized the world and the unthinkable atrocities you ordered them to perform?...
  - d. John Lennon, do you still believe you are more popular than Jesus Christ?
  - e. Kathy Griffin, that award you called your god, what do you think of that now?
2. Unforgiven men must realize “every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord.”
  - a. venders of smut, peddlers of dope, and despisers of what is good and holy, what will be their response in the presence of him Who is called Wonderful?
  - b. What comment can be made to the rejection of this One Whom Scripture describes as the Source of God’s indescribable gift?
3. Again, “...every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that He is Lord.”

#### **Conclusion:** “For He’s More Wonderful”

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, for you were slain, and you have risen from the dead; worthy are You to live and reign.”

Not just His name, Jesus alone is worthy to be called *Wonderful!*