

There is Power in His Name

Isaiah 9:1-7

12/20/09

Intro:

I remember when I attending OSU I took a class in philosophy. The professor gave us an assignment to answer the question, “Are we the result of complex chemical reactions or is there something more?” As a Christian, I of course believe that we are much more than just a set chemical reactions; that we have a soul that was given to us by God.

One of the proofs of that, I submitted, is the fulfillment of the prophecies of scripture, and in particular, the prophecies having to do with Jesus Christ.

700 years before Christ’s birth, the prophet Isaiah was writing and preaching about the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. When Isaiah wrote Isaiah 9:1-7, there is no question that he was writing about Jesus.

In that passage we gain many insights into God’s heart when He sent His only Son into this world when we see the name which described the coming Messiah.

Isaiah speaks **of the name that is given** for the One who is the coming hope for the world. We can gain great insight into the purpose and meaning of Christmas as we study His name. And we must also add to that what the angel told Joseph, “You shall call His name, Jesus.”

Jesus was a common name, like David, or Gary. But the name had a meaning, God saves, “for it is He who will save His people from their sins.”

These are insights into the purpose and meaning of Christmas from the meaning of His name.

I. His Name is Wonderful Counselor

A. “Wonderful” means ‘marvelous’

Illus – In Russian, there are different levels of “good.” This is the highest word.

1 The scripture tells us that the Lord will do marvelous, wonderful things.

1 Corinthians 2:9, Things which no eye has seen and ear has not heard; and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.

Ephesians 3:20, Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly beyond all we could ask or even think.

- 1 When John sent messengers asking of He was the One or should they wait for another, Jesus responded,

Luke 7:22, “Go and report to John what you have seen with your eyes, ‘The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.’”

B. He is Wonderful Counselor

- This is because He is filled with all wisdom.
- The scripture tells us that Solomon become greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom...but, as it says in **Luke 11:31, “Behold; one greater than Solomon is here.”**

Isaiah 40:13-14, Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, or as His counselor has informed Him? With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge and informed Him of the way of understanding?

Colossians 2:2-3, ...and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

- 1 When Jesus was challenged He gave answers that have amazed people throughout history.

Illus – Jesus was asked if they should pay taxes to Caesar.

- 2 But the word here means “wise advisor,” meaning, He can tell you what is best. This is because His ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts are higher than our thoughts.
- 3 In the Hebrew, the word means to “stand alongside.” Not only does he stand alongside of us as our Wonderful Counselor, He is also the One who stands alongside of us to represent us before God. He is our Counselor, our advocate.

1 John 2:1-2, And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but

also for those of the whole world.

Illus – He places my file in His file...

C. You must make the choice to follow

4 This is the point of the name – His wisdom is to be followed.

Luke 6:46-48, “Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.”

Luke 6:49, “But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.”

5 If you follow and walk in faithfulness he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

II. His Name is Mighty God

A. There is cause for concern

- Herod was afraid of Him for good _____ reason.
- People use His name as a cuss word to try to reduce His power – it won’t work.
- Some people don’t like the word Christmas. Why? Because it has the name Christ in it.

Illus – Narnia movie left out a very important line, “Of course He isn’t safe...”

Proverbs 9:10-11, The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For by me your days will be multiplied, and years of life will be added to you.

B. He has power over all things

- 1 He turned the water into wine, calmed _____ the storm, and had authority over _____ demons.

Luke 8:25, And He said to them, “Where is your faith?” They were fearful and amazed,

saying to one another, “Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the sea, and they obey Him?”

2 They fell back in the Garden when He said, “I am.”

C. He has a name above all other names

Philippians 2:10-11, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Acts 4:12, And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.

III. His Name is Prince of Peace

A. He is the prince who brings peace

- 3 Many people believed and hoped that he would destroy Rome and thus bring peace on the earth as he ruled as king.
- 4 This world needs the Prince of Peace now to overcome the condition of the world.
 - 1 Peace on earth will come when He returns again!
 - 2 He is the only One with enough authority to bring peace.

Revelation 5:4-5, “Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it; and one of the elders said to me, “Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals.”

B. “My peace I give you”

- 1 There is a peace that can only come from the Lord. That is the peace we need.

John 14:27, “My peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let your heart be fearful.”

5 Peace that passes understanding...

Philippians 4:6-7, Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in

Christ Jesus.

Illus – Someone put our two snowmen salt and pepper shakers in the manger scene, it's hard to tell them they don't belong there.

Celebrating His birth should be a time to establish our lives in the fullness of Jesus' name – God saves.