

**A Christmas Message;
His Name is Wonderful**

Isaiah 9:1-7

12/14/03

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700 years before His birth, the prophet Isaiah was writing and preaching about the messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. When Isaiah wrote in what we have as 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 will be used to describe the coming hope for the world. We can gain great insight into the purpose and meaning of Christmas as we study this 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."

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.

I 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." **(Hidden wisdom now revealed)**

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

➤ **When John sent messengers asking of He was the One or should they wait for another, Jesus responded, "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. Wonderful Counselor speaks of great wisdom

Luke 11:21, "*Behold; one greater than Solomon is here.*"

➤ When Jesus was challenged He gave answers that amazed people throughout history.

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

➤ **But the word here means "wise advisor," meaning, He can tell you what is best.**

C. His wisdom is personal

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

Illus – Missing the point – Misha and brushing his teeth.

Luke 4:46-49 - Why do you call me Lord?

II. His name is Mighty God.

A. This part is most worrisome

- 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.**

B. He has power over all things.

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

C. At the name of Jesus every knee will bow.

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.”

III. His name is Prince of Peace.

A. There will be peace on earth.

- Many people believed and hoped that he would destroy Rome and thus bring peace on the earth as he ruled as king.
- But Jesus said that He did not come to bring peace on earth.

Luke 12:51, "Do you suppose that I came to grant peace on earth? I tell you, no, but rather division"

- Peace on earth will come when He returns again!

B. “My peace I give you”

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.”

- Peace that passes understanding...

C. Peace with God and the peace of God.

- Peace from faith; and peace from being free.

Illus – two snowmen at the manger scene, it's hard to tell them they don't belong there.

Conclusion

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