

THRIVING



IN THE WORD . IN PRAYER . IN FELLOWSHIP

Isaiah 9:1-7

Birth and Reign of the Prince of Peace

9 But there will be no *more* gloom for her who was in anguish. In earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He will make *it* glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

² The people who walk in darkness

Will see a great light;

Those who live in a dark land,

The light will shine on them.

³ You will multiply the nation,

You will increase their joy;

They will rejoice in Your presence

As with the joy of harvest,

As *people* rejoice when they divide the spoils.

⁴ For You will break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,

The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the marching warrior in the roar *of battle*,

And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us;

And the government will rest on His shoulders;

And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace

On the throne of David and over his kingdom,

To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness

From then on and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of armies will accomplish this.

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about ourselves?
3. How do you think we are supposed to respond to this passage?
4. What are you excited to share with others?

“This passage has always been a source of fascination and anticipation for me. I recently read an amazing new devotional where the author had this to say:”— Pastor Justin

“When you think of Isaiah at Christmastime, you probably think of all of the prophecies that point towards Jesus’ birth. Those prophecies find their root in the prophecy that God, in essence, will have to chop Judah down (in the form of the Babylonian captivity), but there will remain a remnant, a stump, that will be a seed for the line of Judah, the line of David to continue (Isaiah 6:8-13). Provision is made, and in the famous text of Isaiah 9, we see that God has a plan to continue to redeem His people—this time through a King who would be a Wonderful Counselor, a Mighty God, an Everlasting Father, and a Prince of Peace.”— Laci Steed, Emmanuel~25 Days of Anticipating Jesus