

Christmas Part 1: To Us a Child is Born

Isaiah 9:6-7



*Isaiah 9:6-7
For to us a
child is born, to
us a son is
given, and the
government
will be on his
shoulders. And
he will be*

*called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace. 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.*

Before there were the Gospel's of the New Testament, there was a gospel of sorts according to the prophet Isaiah. It is in Isaiah that we find the first detailed account of the Christmas story. What we discover in Isaiah's account is that this is not just any child being born, but this child will be extraordinary.

1) He Will be a Miraculous Child The incarnation of Jesus is nothing short of a miracle. Not because He was born. That occurred like every other birth. But because of how He was conceived: "behold, the virgin will be with child." It is through the virgin that God demonstrates His supernatural power in the world to remove all doubt concerning His wondrous work. It is also through the virgin, that this son who is born, is born

apart from the sin nature every other person bears because of Adam. A sinless savior comes forth from a virgin.

2) He Will be a Unique Child What makes this child unique, is that not only is He to be flesh and blood just like us, but He will be "God with us." This child who is born is truly God and truly man. As "Everlasting Father", that means this child is eternal in origins. There was never a time when Jesus was not fully God. There has never been a child like this, and there will never be another.

3) He Will be a Capable Child It is in His names that we discover His works. This very day, the son to come is "Wonderful Counselor" and "Prince of Peace". As Wonderful Counselor, Jesus offers the best direction for our lives. Jesus brings forth the right counsel for us. It might not be what we want to hear, but it will always be what we need to hear. As Prince of Peace, Jesus offers and mediates reconciliation between us and God, each other, and ourselves. Jesus brings peace to our past through forgiveness of sins, and brings peace to our future as sovereign ruler over all things.

It is at Christmas that we celebrate the birth of a child, but this is not just any child. It is Isaiah who first declares that this birth is a deliberate work of God to produce a sinless savior. That this child will be eternal in origins as fully God and fully man who dwells among His creation. That this child will perform mighty works in our lives to bring about the best outcomes for those who trust Him.