Series: Standing on the Promises of God

THE PROMISE OF THE PRINCE OF PEACE ISAIAH 9:6

Text: Isaiah 9:6

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Introduction:

Christmas is a wonderful time of year that we all enjoy. It is a time when we have the opportunity to gather with our friends and loved ones in celebration of the birth of our Savior. However, if we aren't very careful we will allow the busyness of the season and the emphasis on gifts to cloud our vision of what we are truly celebrating.

I fear that many will have a birthday celebration and forget the honored Guest. May we be careful in the coming days to keep the emphasis on Christ and what His coming to earth means to us. Had He not come and submitted to the Father's will, we would have little to celebrate in this life.

We have read one verse this morning from the prophet Isaiah.

He lived some 700 years prior to the birth of Christ and yet he was already looking forward to that glorious day when God would become flesh and dwell among men.

I want to take a few moments to consider this verse of Scripture and see what it reveals concerning: The Promise of the Prince of Peace.

Note:

1. HIS SALVATION

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

What comfort and hope we find in this verse of Scripture.

For <u>unto us</u> a child is born. Our blessed Lord came to redeem us from our sin; He came to ransom the lost from condemnation. This was not a fact finding mission. Christ did not come to discover the affairs of men so that He might report back to the Father. He

came with a plan and a purpose, to save humanity from their sins!

Note Matthew 1:21 & John 3:16

Matthew 1:21

²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Christ came for you and He came for me.

He came for whosoever.

What a tremendous blessing.

Christ came so that we might be reconciled to the Father.

Christ came for us.

Note also:

2. HIS SUBMISSION

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us <u>a child is born</u>, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Many times we fail to see the enormity of His incarnation. We are not talking about a child that was born and achieved greatness in this life.

We are talking about the Son of God, laying aside the glory that He possessed and veiling His deity in a body of flesh.

The King of glory humbled Himself to be born of a virgin and dwell among men.

He willingly left the splendors of heaven to come and dwell upon this earth, knowing that He would have no place to call His own, that He would be misunderstood and rejected, ultimately being condemned to death and dying upon a cross.

It humbles me when I pause and consider all that Jesus did so that we might be saved.

That certainly sheds new light on our petty complaints and difficulties.

Philippians 2:7

⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Psalm 22 is the Psalm of the cross. Many of the words used here was repeated by the Lord while on the cross. It is a picture of our Lord's saddest hours.

Psalm 22:1-21

¹ My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent. ³ But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel. 4 Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them. 5 They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded. 6 But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. ⁷ All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, 8 He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. 9 But thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts. ¹⁰ I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly. 11 Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help. 12 Many bulls have compassed me: strong bulls of

Bashan have beset me round. 13 They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion. 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. 16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. 17 I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. ¹⁸ They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. 19 But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me. 20 Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog. 21 Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns.

Notice not only His Salvation and Submission but also:

3. HIS SACRIFICE

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us <u>a son is given</u>: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Keep in mind that this was no ordinary child; this was the Son of God, given for the sins of the world. God the Father offered His only begotten Son so that we might receive salvation.

Christ wasn't asked to come and dwell among men just to heal the sick, raise the dead, and give counsel to the wayward. These were all great miracles that He performed, but that is not why He came. Christ came to offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice for sin. He came to purchase our redemption on the cross!

Philippians 2:8

⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

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The cross was not some horrible accident. It was not an event that happened when things got out of hand.

From the moment that Christ was born, Calvary was in view.

He was well aware that in God's time He would lay down His life for mankind according to God's plan.

Isaiah 53:10

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

We have considered our Saviour's Salvation, Submission, and Sacrifice.

Note lastly:

4. HIS SUPREMACY

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah describes that Name that is above every name. He is called:

A. Wonderful

This has the idea of being supernatural and extraordinary.

Clearly there is nothing ordinary or common about our Lord. He is the exalted Savior!

As I ponder His blessings and benefits, I realize that none have done for me what Christ has done.

He alone secured my salvation. He has reconciled me to God and promised me eternal life in Heaven.

Truly the Lord is Wonderful.

Not only is He wonderful, He is also our:

B. Counselor

This speaks of Christ being our Guide.

It literally means "to advise, counsel.

I am glad for the direction and counsel of the Lord.

I am glad that He didn't save me and expect me to make it through this life on my own.

As long as we walk in the ways of God, we are heading in the right direction.

Remember Psalms 37:23:

Psalm 37:23

²³ The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

What a blessing it is for Him to order our steps.

Not only is He wonderful, and Our Counselor He is also our:

C. Mighty God

This speaks of Christ being the Strong One, the I AM, the Conqueror, the One who is mighty and invincible. At Christmas we think of Christ as the humble babe in a manger, but He is the Mighty God.

He is in control of our lives. We don't live by luck or circumstances, but the I AM is guarding and guiding our way.

Not only is He wonderful, Our Counselor and the Mighty God He is also our:

D. The Everlasting Father

There has never been a time when God didn't exist. He existed long before time began.

God has always been and He will always be! That brings comfort to my heart. I am not serving one who is here today and gone tomorrow.

He is God and He will never change.

Hebrews 13:8

⁸ Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Malachi 3:6

⁶ For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Not only is He wonderful, Our Counselor, the Mighty God and the Everlasting Father He is also our:

E. Prince of Peace

Keep in mind that Isaiah is looking toward the coming Kingdom during the Millennial Reign.

It is during that time that the Lord will establish His kingdom and bring peace to the earth.

That is yet to come in our future, but we can enjoy His peace even now.

For the believer there is peace even in the midst of adversity.

Remember no one can enjoy the peace of God, that peace that passes all understanding until they have made peach with God.

I have no way of knowing what tomorrow may hold, but I do know who holds tomorrow. He provides peace that this world cannot give.

John 16:33

³³ These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Philippians 4:7

⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Close:

As we look toward Christmas, it is my prayer that we will remember and worship the Christ of Christmas. He is the reason for the season. Had there been no birth, there would have been no death, and there would be no life. Let that sink in for just a moment. All that we have we owe to Christ.