

Peace on Earth at Last! Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name 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, Upon the throne of David and over His
kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment
and justice
From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the
Lord of hosts will perform this. **PRAY**

Outside of the United Nations building in New
York City is this very famous statue by a Russian
artist

A)The Statue is of a strong man with a hammer
beating a sword into a plow.

B)And across the street from the United Nations
building are the very words that that statue is
coming from. It's from the book of Isaiah. **They shall
beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into
pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against
nation. Neither shall they learn war anymore.** Isaiah 2

C)The United Nations was founded right after
WWII

D)Their stated goal was to end war and to bring in
world peace. **It's a wonderful goal to have.**
1) But, let's be frank, they failed miserably.

E)Since the United Nations was founded, there has
not been a single year of peace anywhere on
Earth.

True it is a great goal. But nobody has been able to
pull it off. No one.

A)Not the United Nations, not any King, not any
kingdom.

B)In any era of human history, no one has been
able to bring about peace. It is an impossible task!

C)But it will happen one day when the one who is
called the Prince of Peace shows up on the scene.

D)Then it will be **PEACE ON EARTH AT LAST!**
– Title of this message

Isaiah chapter 9 is one of the most famous passages
in all of the scripture.

A)And this passage gets quoted a lot around
Christmas time because it mentions the child being
born.

B)And so it finds its way into Christmas cards, and
sermons.

C)But When Isaiah wrote this, he wrote it about
100 years before the Babylonian captivity,
1)about 600 years before the birth of Christ.

D)Isaiah, in this passage, is looking past his own
lifetime, past Bethlehem,
1)although there are overtones of it in verse 6.

E)He looks past the first coming of the Messiah,
past the cross, past the Resurrection,
1)He looks into the future when the Messiah reigns as
monarch on the earth.

Today, if you mention a King or a kingdom to
Americans, that doesn't sit very well.

A)I mean, we're a nation founded in rebellion to
the King of England

B)Texas is always talking of Succeeding from the
USA,
1)The Florida governor is wanting to build his own
volunteer army to assist the national guard

C)and here is California we tried to oust our
Governor – unfortunately that attempt failed.

D)Rebellion against authority is deep in our roots
of our nation

But, the Kingdom of Jesus is going to be different –
we are going to love it!

A)He is going to bring a lasting peace unlike the
world has ever known before.

B)It all revolves around the RIGHT ruler.
1)It's the right person at the right time.

C)Today I want us to consider 3 things about this
coming Ruler

1st He is a Remarkable King

2nd He has a Royal Character

3rd He sets up a Righteous Kingdom

1st He is a Remarkable King – look back to verse 6, and notice this King that is predicted.

A) Three things are immediately said of him.

B) #1 His humanity is mentioned **unto us a child is born.**

C) #2 His deity is alluded to. **Unto us a son is given.**

D) #3 his sovereignty is stated. **The government will be upon his shoulders.**

Let's take each one.

A) #1 His humanity is mentioned **Unto us a child is born.**

B) That's Christmas. That's the nativity. That's when Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

1) That's what we celebrate at Christmas time.

But something else is said of this remarkable King.

A) Not only is his humanity mentioned, but it says, **unto us a son is given.**

B) Notice -It does not say, **unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is born.**

1) But **unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given.** – His deity is alluded to here

C) There is a suggestion in the text of pre-existence. Of his pre-existent deity.

Make this clear, before he was born as a child, JESUS already existed as God,

A) as the second person of the Trinity.

B) So when the child was born, that's when the Son was also given.

C) That's John 3:16. **For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son.**

D) Now try to get your head around this one. -Jesus is the only person who existed before he was conceived.

E) No wonder Paul wrote to Timothy and said, **great is the mystery of godliness that God was manifested in the flesh.**

What it means is Jesus never became God.

A) Jesus was God before he was born, and remained God after he was human.

B) Which begs a question immediately, and that is how does God get born?

Bb) I mean, if he's God, how is that even possible? How can God fit into a womb?

C) How do you get God in a placenta filled with amniotic fluid? And there's only one answer to that.

D) A virgin birth. It's the only way God could possibly be born.

E) By the way, Isaiah, predicted that.

¹⁴ **Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel Isaiah 7:14**

A Virgin birth So biologically, Jesus is related to Mary, but he is not biologically related to Joseph.

A) He was fully divine, But also fully human

B) And that means he experienced what you and I experience.

1) He knows what it's like to be tired as a human.

C) He knew what it was like to get hungry as a human. **to suffer and, ultimately, die as a human.**

So unto us a child is born. That's his humanity

A) **Unto us a son is given.** -That's his deity.

B) Then we see a description of his sovereignty For it says, **and the government will be upon his shoulder.**

C) Note that it's in the future tense: **will be upon his shoulder.**

D) Isaiah is looking with A prophetic lens into the future,/ beyond Christmas/ beyond the cross,

1) into the kingdom when the government of the world will rest upon his shoulder.

By the way, the word government here is a Hebrew word OT was in Hebrew not Greek,

A) The Hebrew word for government here is the word Misrah. **And it literally means the rule of a monarch.**

B)I really like this for this reason. When Jesus comes, he's the monarch. He rules as one.

1)He's not voted in for four years.

C)Can't say we don't really like the Messiah. We want a new one.

1) This is a monarchy.

D)And you can't impeach him. He's in for good.

1)It's the rule of a monarch.

But what's this idea about the government will be on his shoulder?

A)In ancient times, governance was considered a burden to be born on the shoulder of a monarch.

They understood the responsibility.

B)If you're going to rule, you have to bear the weight of responsibility for the decisions you make.

1)And they considered it a burden. It's a burden that the King wears or the governor wears.

C)And it was symbolically represented by the robe that the King wore.

They would wear the robe on the shoulders to signify the burden of government resting upon the shoulders of the monarch.

A)Interesting Jesus took off his royal robes in heaven, so-to-speak,

B)He came down to the Earth as a child born as the Son given to walk among his people.

C)I've always loved the story about the King who, twice a year,

1)decided to take off his kingly robes, and dress up like a peasant.

D)He disguised himself, walked around people in the city in the countryside,

1)and this drove his guards and officials nuts.

E)This is a security issue, sir. You can't be-- you can't do that.

And he did it anyway twice a year. And his rationale was pretty clear.

A)He said, I cannot rule my people unless I know how they live.

B)Jesus did the same for us – so he could know how we live

C)Not just a remarkable King, but a Kingly High Priest - ¹⁵This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. Hebrews 4:15-16 NLT

D)So 1st He is a Remarkable King – unlike any other

2nd His Royal Character

A)Here in our text Isaiah mentions – and his name will be called..... –

B) when Isaiah gives these names, it doesn't mean the child will actually be called by those names.

1)It's not like anybody said, hey, wonderful counselor, over here. Or, hey Mighty God.

C)But these are descriptive characteristics of his reign. Consider the first one

his name will be called Wonderful Counselor.

Literally in Hebrew, its put this way, he will be a wonder of a counselor.

A) In other words, his wisdom as a counselor transcends all human wisdom.

B)Now, let's be honest Anybody can give you counsel. It's not always wonderful. – BAD counsel?

1)Might have been well-meaning, but it was ungodly counsel.

C)Everybody has an opinion of how you should live. 1)But those opinions are based on their value systems or their feelings about a situation

The counsel of Jesus is always perfect

A)Remember when Jesus was on Earth, and he came to his hometown of Nazareth, the people marveled.

B)They were all amazed by the gracious words that came from his lips. It's, like, wow. That was good.

1)He's a wonderful counselor.

C) Now, imagine if Jesus opened a counseling office down by your house

1) You go there to get counsel. You walk in, there are no forms to fill out, he already knows everything about U.

You start: Jesus, I've had a rough week. My boss-- and he goes, you don't even have to keep going.

A) I saw what your boss did to you.

B) And I heard how he talked to you – your boss is a jerk! – Jesus probably wouldn't say that

C) But he would give you perfect advice on how to deal with it

D) In John chapter 7, Jesus was in the temple, and he spoke. **And the officials said, no man ever spoke like this man.**

1) His counsel was and will be always wonderful.

You know why there has never been peace here on Earth?

A) It is because politicians usually don't seek God.

B) They get their counsel and advice from other flawed humans/ who most of the time are not seeking God either

C) Everyone does what is right in their own eyes – the result is a mess!

D) Rarely do you find a leader of a nation who is really intent on finding out what God has to say.

1) Opens the Bible, and let's pray about this.

E) Very rare do you find that. And when you do, you should make note of it.

Abraham Lincoln was a president like that.

A) He was not perfect, but he did say this. "Amid the greatest difficulties of my administration, when I could not see any other resort, I would place my whole reliance on God knowing that all would go well, and that he would decide for the right."

B) There were times during his administration where it was just too much for him, but he knew he could trust in God.

1) With God's guidance President Lincoln brought a measure of peace. And an end the Civil War.

C) George Washington said, first president, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Proverbs 3 In all your ways Acknowledge Him – Seek is heart – and he will direct your paths

A) And you know why else we should seek him? He is the Mighty God

B) which means his counseling is even more profound because he not only says the right things, 1) But he has the power to change things because he's Mighty God.

C) He supplies strength to do what needs to be done

Then, he is called here everlasting Father, or Eternal Father, as some of your translations might say.

A) Literally it is he is Father of eternity.

B) Father, here, meaning probably the originator of, or the source of that which is the eternal.

C) Now, let's just pause to notice this. Jesus is given the title everlasting Father.

1) Don't misunderstand what that means.

D) Isaiah is not saying: you are God the Father, because he's not God the Father.

1) He's God the Son, different from God the Father.

We call that the Triune God, or the Trinity. That's what the Bible teaches.

A) Three persons, one God.

B) But in the history of the church there was a false teaching that arose called Modalism

1) Modalism taught there is only one person to the Godhead not three.

C) One person who would portray himself in 3 different ways

1) sometimes he shows up as God the Father.

D) Sometimes he shows up as God the Son. Sometimes he shows up as God the Holy Spirit.

1) One person wearing different hats so to speak

That is not what the Bible teaches – the Bible teaches that God is 3 persons who are ONE

A) So when it says Jesus is everlasting Father, it's not saying he is God the Father.

B) No, he's separate from God the Father.

C) But this is really a description of what his reign is going to be like.

1) He's going to reign, rule, like a Father would.

D) Not like a despot. Not like a dictator. Not like an elected official.

1) He is going to reign with a paternal reign, a fatherly reign, a caring and compassionate reign.

So this is one of the great reasons there will be peace on Earth is because of the character of this ruler.

A) His counsel is wonderful. His strength is impeccable.

B) His rule is paternal, like a Father.

C) So, his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father.

He will also be called the Prince of Peace.

A) This brings us to our 3rd point His Righteous Kingdom

B) You see in the Messiah's kingdom, there will be no conflict. – There will finally be peace on earth!

1) It will be a kingdom of peace.

C) Recall on that first Christmas morning – the Message of the Angels to the Shepherds The angel said, **glory to God in the highest Peace on Earth and Good will toward men.**

D) Some might think – that Angel messenger missed it on that one –

1) 2,000 yrs have passed and we haven't seen peace on earth

E) Know this – it is coming!

But the actual translation of the Angelic message is this Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth, peace to people on whom God's favor rests.

A) Completely different meaning.

B) Or a better translation even, glory to God in the highest. and, on Earth, peace to people with whom God is well-pleased.

C) See Jesus the Prince of Peace, brought the opportunity for mankind to experience peace with God.

D) Pastor Aaron talked about this last week

See when a person gives their life to Jesus Christ, the war is over.

A) You have peace with God. There's nothing in between you and heaven any longer.

Romans 5:1, therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. That's number one.

B) But peace with God opens the door for a person to experience the peace of God – Philippians 4:6-7 – Be anxious for nothing. In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds- THROUGH CHRIST JESUS

C) We trust him and bring our needs to him – 1) and he provides a way for us to experience peace in the midst of the turmoil

D) So he made a way for us to have peace with God – and to experience the peace of God

But one day this earth is going to experience Peace from God –

A) When the Prince of peace returns and sets up his Kingdom

B) Notice v.7 in our text again

it says, of the increase of his government and peace, there will be no end. Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom to order it and establish it with judgment and justice, from that time forth, or forward, even forever the zeal of **the Lord of hosts will perform this.**

I love that last line, the Lord of host will perform this

A) The idea is the Lord of Host will get this done – he will do what no one else has ever been able to do

B)He describes in one verse His ever-expanding dynastic rule over the world.

Of the increase of his government and peace, there will be no end.

C)**No end.** This is eternal. This keeps going.

1)It's not four years, you didn't do a good job. You're out.

D)Or you did great and we are going to vote you back in for another 4 yrs – **but after 8 it is over**

1)No, it's perpetual. It's eternal. It is forever, **and it will keep on expanding.**

Jesus will rule the world from Jerusalem.

By the way, you know what Jerusalem means?

A)The city of peace. - **But it has never lived up to its name. One day it will.**

B)One day the Prince of Peace will sit in the City of Peace and rule, not just Israel, but the world.

C)**And according to Isaiah ch 2, War will cease!**

1)all the weapons of war will be turned into farm equipment. Military forces will be abolished.

Doesn't that sound absolutely amazing?

A)I want you to try to imagine for a moment a world without any war.

B)Try to imagine a world in perfect peace, a pristine utopia.

1)Imagine a world that does not need Homeland Security. Iron shields

C)Imagine a world that doesn't have any missile testing because there are no missiles to test.

D)Imagine a world where all the politicians are saints. hahaha

1)That's a hard one because you are really having to stretch your imagination.

Imagine a world in which everything is always fair.

A)There is no need of an army, no need of a Navy, No need of an Airforce

B)Now, imagine a world that is so healthy that, if somebody dies at age 100, they are said to die young.

1) Talking about -Pre-flood conditions

C)Imagine a world where the curse is removed, the animal kingdom is tamed,

If you want to see animals today, you go to a zoo.

A)You have to see them on the other side of the enclosure or through Plexiglas or through a big metal post

B)because you're not going to get into the enclosure and just hug the bear.

C)According to Isaiah chapter 11:6, 8

“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den.

D)So the animal kingdom will be tame.

The Earth will be pristine the environment on the Earth will be lush.

A)Listen to Isaiah chapter 35, even the wilderness will rejoice in those days. The desert, will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon. Springs will gush forth in the wilderness and streams will water the desert.

B)That means Palm Springs and Joshua tree and Phoenix and Barstow are going to look like the English countryside.

C)So think about that. You may want to buy property now while rates are good.

1)They might sky rocket

One day, we will not have to imagine it because it's going to come true

A)It is called the Kingdom Age or the Millennial Kingdom or the 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth.

B)No Satan – He is bound – No demons – they are bound –

C)Just JESUS - The Prince of Peace reigning in perfect peace!

I want to close today by asking you this question.

A)We know the government of this world is going to one day- be on Jesus' shoulders

1)He'll rule it all.

B)Is the government of your life on His shoulders now? Have you turned over your life to Him now?

At the 2nd coming Jesus is going to put the GOVT upon His shoulders –

A)But at his first coming – he put the cross on his shoulders for you AND FOR ME

B)The baby that was born was born to die.

C)The Good news is that peace is not found in the absence of problems it is found in the presence of Jesus

The Angel announced that first Christmas night – glory to God in the highest – Peace on earth.....

A)Ephesians 2:14 tells us that Jesus came as our peace

B)Not just to give us peace but to literally be our peace

C)Peace starts with knowing Jesus – embracing Jesus giving your life to Jesus

D)He can be your Peace today – Peace with God

E)Experience the peace of God

F)Look forward to being a part of the Peace from God that Jesus is going to establish

It starts with allowing him to rule in your heart