

Series: Songs of the Season; Sermon: **Isaiah's Song**

Delivered by: **Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: November 24, 2019

Bible text explored: Isaiah 9:1-7

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;
They rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
To establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. God called Isaiah to preach to a people who would largely ignore his message. He told him (in *Isa. 7:2-9*) to challenge Ahaz, the king of the southern kingdom, Judah, to trust God rather than seek alliances with other nations. How did Ahaz respond? (See *2 Kings 16:7*.)
What image did Isaiah use in predicting the interruption of the Davidic kingly line through exile and then its restoration? (See *Isa. 4:2; 11:1; 52:13* and *53:2*.)
2. What (v. 1) was the discouraging initial result for the northern kingdom, Israel, ruled by King Pekah? (See *2 Kings 15:29*.)
But what hope did Isaiah hold out for Galilee's future?
3. Isaiah depicts two images of hope. What (v. 2) will happen to the darkness?
What (v. 3) will happen to the gloom?
How did Matthew link this song to the launching of Jesus' ministry in Galilee? (See *Matt. 4:13-16*.)
4. How (v. 4) was the "day of Midian" an encouraging indication of how God had—and again could—release his people from physical oppression? (See *Judg. 6:35* and *7:22-25*.)
How (v. 5) will invasions end, conquerors be conquered?

5. How (v. 6) will the Child to be born restore the Davidic kingdom?

What do the titles given here to the Messiah suggest . . .

Wonderful Counselor: . . . about his wisdom?

Mighty God: . . . about his power?

Everlasting Father: . . . about his rule's duration and protection?

Prince of Peace: . . . about its effect on individual and societal well-being?

6. What passionate commitment (v. 7) assures us that this will happen?

7. To gauge the genuineness of my own trust in God, consider three aspects:

- *Financial*: do I really seek God's kingdom first in this area?
- *Theological*: when faced with adversity, do I vacillate about truths I profess to believe?
- *Personal*: have I received Christ's forgiveness and peace in my own life and extended it to others as well?