For Unto Us: The Man Who Changed the World

Text: Isaiah 9:6 Date: 10-4-20 @ 10:30 am

Main Truth: The transcendent and fully adequate individual, the hope of the nation, the redeemer of mankind, is brought onto the scene here in Isaiah 9:6-7, and He is no ordinary child.

I. Being born into this world, the Redeemer would become full humanity making Him completely qualified to be the Deliverer for the Jews (v. 6a).

While Assyria would destroy the Syria-Israel coalition, the Child would bring deliverance for God's people.

This is God's gift to His people, to the nations, and to us. As the remnant, to hear the reiteration of this Messianic promise would have been the greatest of encouragement. This is not an ambiguous description of a future event; rather this is a historical fact that the Messiah would be born and given to the Jewish people. The deliverance and rejoicing in the prior verses is inseparably connected to this birth, an event at a definite time and place.

That miracle child will bring redemption not just to the Jewish nation but to the world as a whole. That birth signifies His humanity. The humanity of Christ is clearly shown as people saw Him, interacted with Him, and He ate with His friends. See I John 1:1ff. The Word became flesh (John 1:14) so that He may save those of the same flesh.

Truth: The One who would turn darkness into light, who will break the yoke of bondage and free mankind from sin will be none other than the Person described in the next two verses.

II. Ruling over the nation and the world, the Redeemer will occupy the preeminent position of all time (v. 6b).

Where the people miserably failed, the Redeemer would succeed.

While world powers threatened the very existence of the nation, the Child's government will preserve the nation and the world. This though will be a spiritual rule at its very core (John 18:36). There will no doubt be physical manifestations of it, but its central meaning will be in the special rule that can only come from this One.

III. Bestowing these glorious names to Immanuel demonstrates His impeccable character (v. 6c-f).

The authentic evidence of glory of the person to be born and His relationship to deity is plainly revealed in the names by which he is called.

A. Immanuel is the Wonderful Counselor (Isa. 9:6c).

This word wonderful indicates *mysterious acts of God beyond human comprehension or abilities*. It often indicated cosmic wonders or historical accomplishments on behalf of the nation of Israel. See Isa. 25:1; Isa. 28:29

Wonderful is an attribute of God like holiness; therefore, this indicates the divinity of the child here in this chapter. This indicates that the Child is the wonder of the ages, the full revelation of the Father, and has mighty power over all of His enemies. His mission is like no other and contains the full aspect of redemption and love. No man can come close to this one who is wonderful. He will impact nations like no other human has ever done (Isa. 52:15).

Young writes, "The Old Testament usage of this word compels us to the conclusion that it here designates the Messiah not merely as someone extraordinary, but as One who in His very person and being is a Wonder. He is that which surpasses human thought and power; He is God Himself. To designate the Child with the word *pele* is to make the clearest attestation of His deity" (334).

The Hebrew word for counselor means "adviser, i.e., one who speaks and urges certain directions of actions or thought, implying the advice given is considered wise and valuable". 1

How does Isaiah 9:6 apply to me?

- 1. The realization that Jesus as God left heaven to be born of a virgin demonstrates not just the need for my salvation but the devotion that God went to save me from my sin.
- 2. The love of God is not just a concept or emotion, it is a Person.

What does this passage reveal about the character and nature of God?

- 1. God's steadfast faithfulness is demonstrated through the fulfillment of His divinely ordained plan.
- 2. The incomparable glory of Almighty God is shown in the humble path that the Son took to come to this earth. Phil. 2

What are some "call to action" truths from Isaiah 9:6-7?

- 1. We must defend both the humanity and deity of Christ in this day when those truths become increasingly under attack.
- 2. We must take Immanuel's mission to all the world as we model His love and forgiveness to the lost people of our day.

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). <u>Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Hebrew (Old Testament)</u> (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.