

Rejoicing In The Hope Found In Christ

Isaiah 9:1-7

1. Light Over Darkness vs. 1-2

Through king Ahaz of Judah refusing instructions and testimonies of God, the people of Judah were experiencing grief and despair due to the Assyrian nation's conquest. However, God is greater than Assyria, and He promises that in the future, the Messiah through God's grace will cause joy and triumph of victory.

The good news is that God wants to turn our darkness into light, our conflict into peace, our loss into abundance, our despair into joy. Jesus the promised Messiah is the light of the world. Those who receive His sacrificial death on the cross for our sins, is transformed to live a new life with Him (1 John 1:5-7).

2. Joy Over Fear vs. 3-5

Isaiah focuses on the day when "One" mightier than the Assyrians of this world will bring final deliverance; a peace that is only found when the Messiah comes through delivering humanity from their sin.

Only through Jesus Christ can we experience deliverance and have peace with God; a peace that is received through the forgiveness of our sin that could only happen through Jesus taking on our punishment by dying on the cross for our sin. (Romans 5:1-11)

3. Relationship Over Enmity Vs. 6-7

An Immanuel prophecy that will be fulfilled through the coming of the Messiah who being fully God, will be God with us, through taking on human flesh as a virgin born child (Isaiah 7:14), and becoming the promised servant king from the line of David for all of humanity.

Jesus fulfilled this prophecy. Our Messiah! Anyone who receives him as their Lord and Saviour, will no longer be enemies but will experience a personal relationship with the eternal King who is above all kings. (Luke 1:32-33, Colossians 1:13-14)

Questions:

In reflecting on this prophecy about who Jesus is and how He will rule, how does it build your confidence in Him—even if things in this world are not currently going the way you wish?

Do you get easily discouraged? Consider if your discouragement is related to forgetting the promises of God.

How does the prophecy of the divine ruler in Isaiah 9 shape your understanding of Jesus Christ?