

A SON OF DAVID IS BORN: ISAIAH 9:1-7

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I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The Old Testament Prophets wove the 1st coming/Birth of Jesus and 2nd coming of Jesus together in many of their prophecies. Understanding their flow of revelation helps us understand the long-term significance of Jesus' birth to the Jewish people of His day. Jesus' birth has end-time implications in these ways: ***removal of sin, physical deliverance from Israel's enemies, restoration of David's throne, exaltation/glorification of Jerusalem as God's throne, Israel*** (all surviving Jews will be saved) ***given spiritual leadership over the nations.***
1. **Micah 5:2** – Jesus' birth in Bethlehem (King David's home) is right in the middle of an end-time prophecy about Jesus delivering Israel from Antichrist oppression.
 2. **Zechariah 9:9** – Jesus' coming on a lowly donkey at His 1st coming is right in the middle of an end-time prophecy about Jesus delivering Israel from foreign armies and ruling over the earth.
 3. **Isaiah 11:1** – Jesus' birth is in the middle of a prophecy about Jesus' earthly reign from Jerusalem.
 4. **Isaiah 9:1-2** (Matthew 4:13-16) – Jesus' first coming partially fulfilled this prophecy, but it will be fulfilled entirely at His 2nd coming.
 5. **Isaiah 9:6-7** – Jesus' birth is in the middle of an end-time prophecy about Israel's deliverance and Jesus' earthly reign over the nations.
- B. The book of Isaiah is the most comprehensive book on the message of the Gospel. Isaiah's central theme is the restoration of David's throne in Jerusalem as the light of salvation/discipleship to the nations after Jesus' 2nd coming (Isaiah 2:1-4; Isaiah 60-62). The prophecy of Jesus' birth in Isaiah 9:6-7 is to be understood in light of Isaiah's overall theme.

II. HISTORICAL CONTEXT: ISAIAH'S DAY & JESUS' DAY

A. Isaiah's Day

1. **Military pressures** – Assyria was the dominant power of the day. Throughout Isaiah's ministry (around 700 BC), the northern half of Israel was completely destroyed. The southern half of Israel (Judah and Jerusalem) was under Assyrian control and was heavily oppressed.

2. **King David's lineage threatened** – Israel's promises hinged on Israel having a promised King from David's lineage. Only the southern half of Israel was ruled by a King from David's lineage, but they were usually weak and lacking in faith.
3. **Moral compromise** – The northern half of Israel was completely compromised and under God's judgment. The southern half of Israel was growing in corruption.

B. Jesus' Day

1. **Military pressures** – Israel had been under Rome's control for about 60 years before Jesus' birth.
2. **King David's lineage threatened** – There was no Jewish King in Israel, only Roman leaders, and David had no significant lineage.
3. **Moral compromise** – The majority of the religious leaders of the day were corrupt, and their generation was under the threat of God's judgment (Matthew 23:36).

III. ISAIAH 9:1-7

- A. **8:11-22** – God instructed Isaiah and the righteous remnant of his day to trust God and His goodness in the midst of societal chaos and judgment. They were to hope in God for the coming of the Messiah and let their perspective be limited to what they saw on the earth. ***Hope is produced in us by having a right perspective of the future.***
- B. **9:1-2** – Zebulun and Naphtali were regions of Galilee in the northern part of Israel. They were the first regions to be judged by God through the Assyrian oppression of Isaiah's day. Jesus made this region His ministry base to fulfill this prophecy (Matthew 4:12-16). Jesus will fill Israel with His glorious light at His 2nd coming (Isaiah 60:1-2).
- C. **9:3** – Verses 3-5 will be fulfilled after Jesus' 2nd coming as He delivers Israel and the Church from the global oppression of the Antichrist. These verses refer to the celebration and restoration that happen after military victories. Israel will be filled with joy and will multiply in numbers. The Great Tribulation will destroy the nation of Israel, but Jesus will completely restore the people and the land at His coming. The land will produce supernatural harvests, and Israel will enjoy the spoil of her enemies.

My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; the LORD will again comfort Zion. (Zechariah 1:17)

Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each one with his staff in his hand because of great age, the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. (Zechariah 8:4-5)

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Isaiah 35:10)

For the LORD will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody. (Isaiah 51:3)

- D. **9:4** – Jesus will free Israel from political and military oppression. The yoke/staff/rod all refer to the Antichrist’s oppression, which would be like the Assyrian oppression of Isaiah’s day and the Roman oppression of Jesus’ day. God will supernaturally deliver Israel as He did through Moses and Gideon (Judges 6-7 - Midian).
- E. **9:5** – All the nations' armies will surround Jerusalem during the Great Tribulation, but Jesus will supernaturally destroy them and cause wars to cease during His earthly reign. All weapons and battle clothing will be burned up to signify the end of all wars. Solomon was the only King to achieve peace during his reign.
- F. **9:6-7** – This entire chapter hinges on the promise that a Child of the line of David will be born and bear the burden of global government.
 - 1. ***A Child is born (Humanity)*** – Isaiah saw the birth of Jesus prophetically, but it was real to him in his day, and it gave him hope. He saw the birth of Jesus as securing all of God’s promises for Israel. God gave humans the responsibility to rule over creation, so Jesus had to become a man to rule creation rightfully. Jesus became Adam in order to take Adam’s Kingly position.
 - 2. ***A Son is given (Divinity)*** – Son refers to a son of David with royal promises, and it refers to God’s Son (Psalm 2:7). The Father has given us His Son.
 - 3. ***Government will be upon His shoulders*** – Jesus will shoulder the responsibilities of ruling every sphere of society in every nation. Jesus is currently governing from the New Jerusalem, but He will physically reign over the nations from Jerusalem.
 - 4. ***His name shall be called*** – His name refers to His personality and leadership style. It was a custom in some ancient nations to make a proclamation about a King’s personality and leadership agenda during his inauguration event, so some believe this is a proclamation about Jesus’ leadership as King.
 - 5. ***Wonderful*** – Wonderful refers to supernatural acts of God. He will do wonders in the earth and produce awe and wonder in worship.
 - 6. ***Counselor*** – Jesus will counsel the nations with perfect wisdom and in full relationship.
 - 7. ***Mighty God*** – This is a statement of Jesus divinity. Mighty means warrior-like. Jesus will be a righteous warrior who delivers His people from oppression. He will not back down, and He will not be threatened.

8. ***Everlasting Father*** – Jesus is the Father of creation, and He cares for creation as a Father does His children. He will care for the fatherless during His earthly reign (Psalm 68:5; 72:4, 12). He will be a tender Father and King over the nations.
9. ***Prince of Peace*** – Jesus’ leadership on the earth will result in the abundance of peace. He will even restore peace between animals and humans (Isaiah 11).

In His days, the righteous shall flourish, and abundance of peace, until the moon is no more.
(Psalm 72:6)

They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isaiah 2:4)

10. ***Government and peace will increase forever*** – His influence will progressively increase over the nations and spheres of society during His 1,000 reign. His kingdom will increase in the natural realm for all of eternity.
11. ***Upon the throne of David*** – All of David’s promises will be fulfilled through Jesus as the son of David. David’s throne is the primary theme in the book of Isaiah.
12. ***To order it and establish it (His kingdom) with judgment and justice*** – Jesus will rule with perfect clarity and perfect justice. He will rightly evaluate nations and systems and make executive decisions to make all the wrong things right. ***Judgments are actions that bring forth justice.*** He will bring perfect order to every realm of society.

And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears; but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. (Isaiah 11:3-4)

He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people. (Isaiah 2:4)

13. ***The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this*** – Jesus is emotionally zealous to take the desolate nations and corrupt systems and restore them. He will not lose vision, endurance, motivation, and He will never grow discouraged or weary in the process.