

# The Foretold Coming of Jesus Christ

## Isaiah 9:1-7

### I. Advent.

#### A. The first advent Christ comes in humility.

1. Philippians 2:8; Mathew 11:29; Matthew 20:28; Matthew 13:26

#### B. His second advent He will come in His full power and glory.

1. Matthew 24:30; Mark 13:26.

#### C. The close relationship between the first and second advent.

1. In the early church.
2. In our Christmas hymns:
  - a. *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
  - b. *Angels From the Realms of Glory*
  - c. *Joy to the World*

### II. Isaiah 9:1-7

#### A. The world is a mess, but God has a plan!

#### B. Historical context (8:19-22)

1. Because of sin, God's people live in a dark world.
  - a. Resorted to "mediums and spiritists" instead of God.
2. God will use the Assyrians to judge His people.
3. Because of the results of their sin is living in darkness, they are angry at God.

#### C. A Light will displace darkness (9:1-2).

1. The light identified (9:6-7).
  - a. **For a child will be born to us, a child will be given to us.**

#### D. With the child comes a new kingdom.

1. Kingdom referred to as government (9:6-7)

- a. All governments will rest on His shoulders.
  - 2. This is uniting the first and second advent together as an inseparable reality.
  - 3. The promise foretold by Isaiah were never realized by his original listeners—the light did not come for 700 more years!
- E. What's in a name? (9:6)
- 1. **“Wonderful Counselor”**.
    - a. Wonderful—extraordinary, incomprehensible.
    - b. Counselor—One with great wisdom.
  - 2. **“Mighty God”**
    - a. As the mighty God He defeats *all* enemies.
  - 3. **“Eternal Father”**
    - a. Jesus takes the role of our earthly Father.  
-- John 14:10; 14:18.
  - 4. **“Prince of Peace”**
    - a. Jesus brings peace with God.
    - b. Jesus brings peace in our souls.
    - c. The extent of His peace?  
-- (7) **There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace.**
- F. How will all this be accomplished?
- 1. **“The zeal of the Lord”**
    - a. The Lord moving through His great passion of the great ultimate triumph of His Son Jesus Christ.

## The Foretold Coming of Jesus Christ

*Isaiah 9:1-7*

Last Sunday we began observing what tradition has called “Advent”... Latin for “*the coming*”...referring to the first coming of Jesus Christ nearly 2000 years ago... Christmas.... And also His next future coming...His prophesied second coming.

For the four Sundays before Christmas... is a time of meditation... celebration and preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus... a memorial looking back and an expectation looking forward....

Our tradition... a Baptist tradition is that we don’t have much tradition... that is we hold much more loosely to days and liturgies... and rituals that some of the “higher” church traditions do.

### LIST

Sometimes because of paying little attention to tradition we miss out on some of the specialness of certain days and times of year such as Christmas...not that we don’t celebrate Christmas... of course we do... but there is a richness in four weeks of preparation for that special day of celebration called advent.

I personally have enjoyed exploring some of the specifics the higher church traditions regarding this time of Advent... those of you who have been a part of these church traditions probably have not only heard this prayer but know it....It goes like this:

*Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.*

That prayer crosses denomination divides... the core Christian belief that all true Christmas traditions agree on... that God sent His Son Jesus Christ to the earth to be a great light that displaces the darkness of man’s sin...a Savior...THE Savior... and He will return again one day and He will reign in His kingdom forever!.... and we are invited to join Him.

A wonderful prayer.

There is much there... but what I think stands out the most is the fact that you and I stand between the two advents... the two comings of the Lord Jesus...On one side of us ...the first

coming of Jesus...He came in humility as a Savior...and on our other side... His future coming... He will come in His full glory and majesty...as a king.

The first coming of Jesus revealed His perfect humility... everything He did was in humility...

Philippians 2:8: **"He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!"**

Matthew 11:29: **"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."**

Matthew 20:28: **"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

I'm so glad He came... aren't you?...Now we are looking forward to the time when Jesus will return in glorious majesty...power and glory.

Matthew 24:30: "[He] **Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.**"

Mark 13:26: **"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory."**

It is interesting to note that the early church usually saw the first coming of Jesus in light of His future second coming... that the two are closely related which they are...In fact... they were looked upon as being almost as one continuous event.

Being in that frame of mind myself I noticed that many of our Christmas hymns are like that...

***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** which our choir sang this morning certainly looks back to the first advent...

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*

*And ransom captive Israel* With its history of captivity... looking back at the captivity both in Egypt and Babylon... and again under Roman rule... Israel has always faced captivity... and has looked forward to their Messiah that would free them and save them....

Jesus came 2000 years ago and offered a salvation from a captivity far worse than any human oppressors can be guilty of...victory over sin... over eternal judgement...over the grave

*That mourns in lonely exile here*

*Until the Son of God appear*

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel*

*Shall come to thee, O Israel*

*O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free*

*Thine own from Satan's tyranny*

*From depths of Hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave*

Emanuel came and accomplished that...but it looks forward as well...that time when He will

*Bind all people's in one heart and mind, bid every strife and quarrels cease...fill the whole world  
with heaven's peace...* Since the fall of man the world has never been filled with heaven's  
peace.....All that will become the reality at His second coming.

### ***Angels from the Realms of Glory***

*Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!*

Most certainly referring to His birth... but He is what?... a king... hinting of His position in the future Millennial kingdom.

*Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear:* Ezekiel prophesied and Revelation 20 tells of the temple in the  
Millennial kingdom  
*Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!*

### ***Joy to the World***

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

That's applicable to both His first and His second coming...But this verse... specifically His second coming...

*He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,*

*And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.*

So.... Looking at both advents this time of year makes a much richer time of year... [I think]... We look back and see that God fulfilled His promises to the Jews through His prophets hundreds of years before.....so now we can look forward in confidence that Jesus will return just as God has promised... also through his prophets.

So this morning we are going to spend a few minutes... ok a lot of minutes on one of those prophecies written some 700 years before the birth of Jesus...that foretold His birth and still points to His second coming.... I think we will all benefit viewing Christmas in light of Jesus's second coming...

Isaiah has more to say about Christ and His birth than any other book in the Old Testament... interesting to note... when you read Isaiah...again...the first advent and the second advent are looked at as consecutive events... from reading Isaiah you can't determine that there will be at least 2000 years in-between advents...

He makes no distinction between the coming temporary millennial kingdom and the eternal kingdom that follows the millennial... we have to wait until John reveals that to us in Revelation 20.

### **Read Isaiah 9:1-7**

This is God's word!... I want us know this, this morning...simple... **The world is a mess but God has a plan.**

This passage is not ABOUT US... we are the benefactors of what this passage says... but it is not about us... God is not calling out for our help...God is not up there sweating it all out... *What am I going to do... the world has turned in such a mess... I need your help...Please help Me!*

What God reveals here is that He has it all covered... He is in complete control...He's always had a plan... He is sovereign... And even though mankind through the ages have totally messed up this world...and still are... and even though each one of us have failed in many ways in our own lives... God has a rescue plan available for all of us... and it will come to pass... and not by the skin of His teeth....He's got it all.

Look at it as a "birth announcement" ... there have been many babies born recently... notice that?... what else I've noticed is when someone has a baby... they don't say to us... "well.. we had a baby... oh well"... "How was your weekend?"... oh not bad... didn't do much... oh... wait.... *We had a baby*"...

The excitement begins the moment the future mother finds out she's pregnant... she takes her ultrasound pictures to show her friends... *See my baby!*... which looks like a little blip on a radar

screen... that future baby will be the center of all conversation for the next six months and after!... the birth of a baby is a big...huge... deal! [I got a text from Elijah at 5:02 this morning... Gabriela went into labor...7:15 BORN Lily Beth]

When we send out a birth announcement... everyone who gets one we know will rejoice with us!... Here... God sends out a birth announcement... some 700 years before the birth... and the announcement is one of the most joyous announcements in all of history!... along with the birth of this baby is the cure for the entire sick world!...the displacement of darkness with light.

You could look at this passage this way... you come home from work... you get the mail... you turn on the news... the news stinks!...always does!... All is doom and gloom... all is dark... very dark... all is apparently hopeless...

The government is a mess... there's fighting and unrest all over the world... there are no good guys... there is no honest news... it's all dark...and you're blood pressure goes up... you start to get angry...

That is verses 19-22 of chapter 8....

### **Read 8:19-22**

All this is in the context of a messed-up people of God... the historical context is interesting you should check it out...Israel was divided into two kingdoms...the Northern Kingdom Israel will go into captivity into Babylon first... later the Southern Kingdom, Judah, will follow... the outlook for the Jews is bleak.

It's their own fault... here they are using mediums and spiritists to communicate with the dead... which violated Jewish law... God's Law... They resort to mediums and spiritists over God?...**and living in sin the people get frustrated with life and with God... isn't that how it is?**

We live sinful lives...which let's call it what it is... sin is rejecting God...and as a result life doesn't go well... **and we get angry at God?**... verse 21 says they were so angry they cursed at God. [Atheist angry at God...]

**Verse 22 read** describes the world... look around...because of sin the world is a dark...very dark place...Assyria is ready to attack and conquer God's unfaithful people... Assyrians were not nice people... they were the most wretched, wicked, ruthless enemies of God's people.

I've shared this before...it's such a telling

Adad Nurrari II was one of the treacherous Assyrian emperors had these words etched into his palace wall... listen to these... *I am royal...I am lordly...I am mighty...I am honored...I am exalted... I am glorified.. I am powerful, I am all powerful...I am brilliant...I am lion brave... I am manly...I am supreme, I am noble...*

Let me add to that... If Adad could talk he would say I AM DEAD!

The world thinks it's so powerful... so strong... so in control...but the fact is... because of man's weakness and affinity to sin...the world is dark...very dark.

So back to that letter you opened...It's a birth announcement... not just any birth announcement...

This is the announcement of a baby that will wipe away all that darkness... all the bad news... all the hopelessness... **We are presented here the one thing worth believing in**... the One thing we can have confidence in...the One who IS Good News... this is Good news FOR US!...You and me!... notice it says (6) **For a child is born TO US.... a son is given TO US.**

That's you and me... this child... this son....this Jesus is given to US! ...Much like what the angel said to the shepherds in Luke **For today in the city of David there has been born FOR YOU a Savior**... In Matthew **Behold the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel which means GOD WITH \_\_\_\_\_ US!**

**For a child is born to us..... a Son given to US!....HE IS OURS!**

These words here in Isaiah are a blood sealed covenant by God Himself... this is reality...we know this because we are now looking back at this fulfilled covenant.... Jesus was given to us.... let's walk our way through this....

## 1. With the child comes a new kingdom

**(6) and the government shall rest on His shoulder... (7) there shall be no end to His government**

Kingdom here referred to as government... some think this is saying all governments in history rest on the shoulders of Jesus... that is true... but here we are introduced to a new government....a future kingdom.

First notice in verse 6 there are two semicolons... remember that a semicolon joins together two independent ideas THAT ARE RELATED TO EACH OTHER together... All that is to say... is that **For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us....semi-colon** is tightly related to **and the government will rest on His shoulders.**

The reason they are attached is that the two thoughts equal a much greater thought... it's like two plus two equals five... what's this mean?... when Jesus was born... we know he was born into basic poverty... in a manger... poor Mary and Joseph... born in weakness...

But even though that's the case... there's this baby in a manger... His Kingdom is already established... not physically... but is an inevitability... IT'S GOING TO BE!!... the



government....**all government will rest on His shoulder**...To rest on a shoulder means full responsibility... IT'S ALREADY INEVITABLE!..

**This is uniting the first and second advent together as an inseparable reality.**

You take all of human history... everything BC and everything AD... by the way... human history has not been all about political engagement.... It has not been about strife between the "classes"... it's not been about racial iniquities... or religion infighting... **all of human history has been all about GOOD VS EVIL... light VS darkness...**

That's what is playing out here.... And all of us... every single one of us was born on the evil side...we see all that here...

Isaiah reveals here the very dark world...a very specific time in Israel's history... but it represents all of history... we think it's dark now... it's always been dark...I saw a meme that said *"Let's all pray for the world to go back to normal"*...

Now I hear what is being said... the older you get the more you see how much the world is changing... and we long for "those days" when it was better... but the fact is ... THIS IS NORMAL FOLKS!

Dark, dark, world...But through the prophet Isaiah... God makes a proclamation... a promise...

### **Read 9:1**

The one area of the Northern Kingdom that was attacked and tortured the most was the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali... God allowed the invaders to practically destroy these two lands... Zebulun and Naphtali are in Galilee...northeast sea of Galilee... Here it says that God promised Naphtali and Zebulun to make them "glorious"...

Well... it was Galilee that Jesus began His ministry... bringing LIGHT to the gentiles... the promise goes on:

### **Read 9:2-3**

All describing this great coming light... Jesus Christ... and the promises that come with Him...

**This promise is for everyone who embraces the light**...By the way... **everyone Isaiah is talking to here is never going to realize this promise of this amazing child during their lifetime**... that happens 700 years later... they will go into captivity or be killed.

That bothers some... why did God wait so long?... we don't know really... but we are told later in Isaiah 49:8 that the coming of this child... the coming of light and salvation will be at **an acceptable time**... go to the New Testament... 2 Corinthians 6:2...Paul quotes Isaiah **At the acceptable time I listened to you, and on the day of salvation I helped you**... Right from Isaiah 49... then Paul says **Behold NOW is the acceptable time, behold now is the day of salvation.**

Paul in Galatians 4:4-7 writes **4 But when the fullness of time had come**, the birth of Jesus was providential... it wasn't a fluke... an accident... it was planned and happened exactly how God planned it to...in the exact moment the exact second... just as God planned it... His plan...

**God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.**

The birth of Jesus was providential.... In other words... a part of a long established plan. 700 years after Isaiah's words we're looking at in chapter 9 became the acceptable time... and it has been the acceptable time ever since!... today is the day of our salvation!...the light has come!

**For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders...**

Jesus brought the light... light has been coexisting with darkness ever since... the light has been victorious over darkness... there is coming a time when the light will completely consume the darkness....

God's answer is a baby born of a virgin in Bethlehem... God knows what we are all up against and He is not afraid... Why should we be?...what He is presenting to us is a whole new world... the birth of Jesus launched a new world... and we all have an invitation to this new world...the **Son is given to you! Will you take Him?**

I love that the government rests on His shoulders... that says there will be a new politic... this is an entirely new political order... amen!... no *"four more years!"*...total integrity... no lies...no hidden secrets... total truth... no Fox News or CNN...won't that be wonderful!

## **2. What's in a name?**

There are over 200 names and titles for Jesus Christ in the Bible...Here in Isaiah there are four names for Jesus and each name becomes a message revealing who Jesus is...why He has come into this world.

Verse 6... **His name shall be wonderful Counselor**... *"wonderful"* literally means extraordinary... incomprehensible..."...too good for words...it suggests deity...from out of this world!... Counselor... just what it says... one with great counsel...wisdom...

Jesus not only knows you inside and out...He knows what you need... He understands you... He has the wisdom you need... He can truly help you!... what He has is out of this world... far above Brene Brown or Tony Robbins... Jordan Peterson...He understands us and knows what we need!

**Mighty God**...That's a big name!... For those who says the Bible never calls Jesus God, here is one place...**Mighty**... used as a military term...warrior like...as the mighty God He defeats *all* enemies...

And for us the greatest enemy is death...death is not “normal” in God’s design... look how Jesus conquered death... by dying on a cross....

{There’s a curious quote from Augustine some 1500 years ago... It has come to be known as the “Devil’s Mousetrap”...

*The devil jumped for joy when Christ died; and by the very death of Christ the devil was overcome: he took, as it were, the bait in the mousetrap. He rejoiced at the death, thinking himself death’s commander. But that which caused his joy dangled the bait before him. The Lord’s cross was the devil’s mousetrap: the bait which caught him was the death of the Lord.“*

*“The devil was conquered by his own trophy of victory. The devil jumped for joy, when he seduced the first man and cast him down to death (Adam). By seducing the first man, he slew him; by slaying the last man, he lost the first from his snare. The victory of our Lord Jesus Christ came when he rose, and ascended into heaven; then was fulfilled what you hear read in the Revelation, “The Lion of the tribe of Judah has conquered }*

The death of Christ the first advent.... (6) **Mighty God**,... and **then Eternal Father**... that’s a name that troubles some... **How can the Son be the Father**?... does this unravel the Trinity?... the idea of “modalism” where there is no Trinity... but one god that can change his “mode”..... no...

Jesus takes the role of our earthly Father... the one who takes care of His people... He takes us in as His own... John 14 Jesus says He and the Father are One... **I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you...**

**Prince of Peace**...the word Prince means that He is a sovereign...He is a ruler over the realm of the earth... He is a prince that gives peace to His people... There are two kinds of peace Jesus brings... **1. He brings peace with God**... man was at enmity with God through the fall of Adam... and God was at enmity with us... enmity meaning opposed to and even hostile towards...

But Jesus and only through Jesus can that enmity be melted away...In that Jesus paid the price for that original sin and all sin... by dying on the cross... We are now reconciled with God...at peace with God.

**2. He brings peace in our souls...** That's what Paul was talking about in Philippians 4:7... **And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

This peace is for now... Jesus is the Prince of Peace that brings a calmness of heart to all who are His...notice again... all four names is what Jesus brings.... Nothing that we do!...yet He brings it to us!

Now ... (7) **There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace...** wrap your brains around this... this means this new kingdom Jesus is inevitably bringing with His second advent... has no limits... it is a kingdom completely unlike our current kingdom...

there will be no insanity... no unrest... no darkness... it will be calm.... Happy... this new empire of grace will forever succeed... now get this... if we enter His kingdom... we will stand while all other kingdoms will crash... Jesus' kingdom goes on and accelerates forever!

Jesus is inviting us to His world that only increases in all good, great things...There will be no end to the increase to His government... to His kingdom that He holds up on His shoulders.... He bears all responsibility... **On the throne of David and over His kingdom to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness...**

**3. How all this will be accomplished.**

The last line in verse 7... **The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.**

This is an amazing part of the verse... Notice who will do this... it's not just **the Lord of hosts** who will do this... literally... the Lord of Hosts means the Lord of armies... host is armies... But that is NOT just a "who" who will...*it is the who with passion* who will accomplish all this... **it is the "zeal" of the Lord of hosts....**

What is it that will power all these promises listed here in chapter nine... *the passion of God...* It is the passion of God that is moving history towards the ultimate triumph in Jesus Christ... It was the passion of God that made the first advent come to past... it will be the passion of God that will bring the second advent to fruition.

The victory of Jesus Christ in this world will be completely done by the passion of God... His zeal... His passion...His energy... His enthusiasm... you and I will have nothing to do with it... All the healing... all the justice... all the peace... WILL come about through Him.

We aren't to just sit and wait for it of course... we have responsibility to do all the good we can in this world to promote and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ...While we are living in this broken world we have a God given moral responsibility to take care of the broken... the cast aways... the hurting... the hungry... the lost... we are to spread the gospel so others will enter

into this great kingdom ... Today we as Christians are more conflicted than ever... living in this world with injustice all around us... values and morality tossed in a dump heap...

It is so easy to get all wrapped up in politics... in causes and issues... to spend most of our free time angry at what's going on in Washington and the rest of the world... what could be great joy in our hearts has turned into vitriol...

Let's realign our hearts with the heart of God...let's defy the gravity of this world that is pulling us down with it... and embrace the joy that is set before us!...God is rejoicing this very day!....Is God wrong??...Is this a lie? The worse the world gets... the wider Christ's arms are stretched out for us...

Zeal is the fire in the heart of God...

It is this zeal that God brings His kingdom to us... It is with this zeal that brings Christ's kingdom all the way from His humble virgin birth to the cross... and it is through the cross that He can grab us... and take us all the way with Him... through His second coming and then through all of eternity!

**The zeal of God will accomplish this... and we can join Him...**