



Living in Hopeful Expectation: Lessons from Isaiah

October 9, 2025

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The Messiah

INTRODUCTION:

READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

2 The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.
3 You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.
4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.
5 Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.

6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the greatness of his government and
peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.

TABLE STUDY:

1. Who is the "You" Isaiah is talking about in verse 3?
2. What story is Isaiah referring to in verse 4? (Hint: Skim the titles in Judges 6-8 in your Bible for a reminder)
3. What are the things we learn about Jesus in this passage?
4. At first glance, what do you think the prophecy in verse 6 is talking about?

TEACHING NOTES:

TABLE DISCUSSION:

1. Which of the four names of The Messiah- Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace- in the prophecy do you most connect with and why?
2. What is the meaning of the name Emmanuel? What was the significance in Isaiah's day? In our day?
3. What do you see in these verses that gives us hope for what is to come?

UNISON READING: Isaiah 43:1 [NLT]

But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine."