

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future, he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

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.

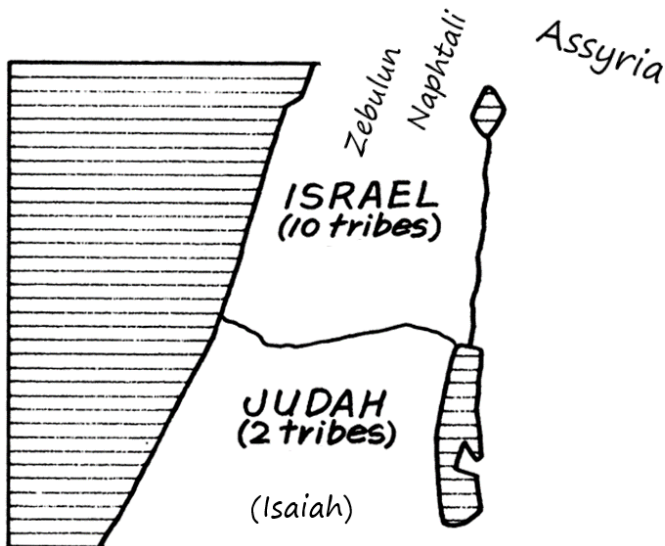
⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called

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.

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A Light in Darkness



- a survey of human government

A government bringing joy and peace (9:1-5)

- joy (1-3) ¹

- peace (4-5) ²

A government with a perfect leader (9:6-7) ³

- Wonderful Counselor

- Mighty God

- Everlasting Father

- Prince of Peace

¹ **Matthew 4:12-17** quotes **Isaiah 9:1-2** showing how Jesus Christ fulfills Isaiah's prophecy: God's plan to bring messianic light to the dense and oppressive darkness of mid-8th century Galilee (Zebulun & Naphtali) dawns in the Galilean ministry and message of Christ who is "the light of the world" (**John 8:12**).

² **1 Timothy 2:1-4; Romans 13:1-7; Jeremiah 29:7; Psalm 82:3-4; Judges 6-7**

³ Isaiah's reference to "David's throne" (**v.7**) ties into God's covenant with David promising that one of his descendants would rule forever (**2 Samuel 7**) fulfilled in Jesus Christ at the 1st Christmas (**Luke 1:32-33**).