



1

Isaiah 7-9

- A pivotal point in the history of Judah – the point of no return (God's judgment is inevitable)
 - Isaiah announces God's coming judgment on Israel, Aram and Judah by the nation of Assyria
 - The Lord gives an unusual, remarkable sign – the sign of “Immanuel” (7:14); *Who is this child?*

2

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ But there will be no *more* gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make *it* glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

3

Isaiah 9:1-7

- ² The people who walk in darkness
Will see a great light;
Those who live in a dark land,
The light will shine on them.
- ³ You shall multiply the nation,
You shall increase their gladness;
They will be glad in Your presence
As with the gladness of harvest,
As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.
- ⁴ For You shall break the yoke of their burden
and the staff on their shoulders,
The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.

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Isaiah 9:1-7

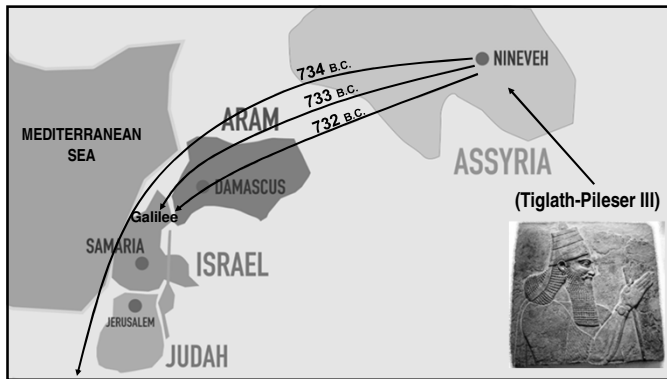
- ⁵ For every boot of the booted warrior in the *battle* tumult,
And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will rest on His shoulders;
And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
- ⁷ There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace,
On the throne of David and over his kingdom,
To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness
From then on and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

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A Glorious Hope (in a Child)

(9:1) a transition from the darkness of judgment to a poem of glorious hope – a “great light”

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A Glorious Hope (in a Child)

1. The Hope Described

- God will give salvation-light (true knowledge of Him) to those in death's darkness (cf. 2 Cor. 4:6)
- God will increase the salvation-joy of abundance and victory – a complete satisfaction

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¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; ¹³ and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet:

¹⁵ "THE LAND OF ZEBULUN AND THE LAND OF NAPHTALI, BY THE WAY OF THE SEA, BEYOND THE JORDAN, GALILEE OF THE GENTILES—

¹⁶ "THE PEOPLE WHO WERE SITTING IN DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT, AND THOSE WHO WERE SITTING IN THE LAND AND SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON THEM A LIGHT DAWNED."

(Matthew 4:12-16)

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A Glorious Hope (in a Child)

2. The Hope Explained

- God will end all oppression of sin and judgment through an apparently weak, unusual means
- God will triumph over all enemies and His people will enjoy the fruit of His victory
- God will give a child, the final Davidic King, who will reign forever with justice and righteousness, and will establish unending peace

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Who is this Child?

1. *WONDER-counselor*

- *pele* – a word used exclusively for God and what He alone does (incomprehensible) (cf. Judges 13:18)

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Who is this Child?

2. *GOD-mighty hero*

- *'el* – designation for the true God alone; the Lord is *'el-gibbor* (Is. 10:21)

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Who is this Child?

3. *father-ETERNAL*

- “father” – the ideal ruler who provides for and protects his people...never ending!

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Who is this Child?

4. *prince of PEACE*

- *shalom* – perfect, lasting peace/wholeness that only God Himself can establish

14

³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.

(Luke 1:30-35)

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