

Isaiah 9

¹ Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever. The land of Zebulun and Naphtali will be humbled, but there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory. ² **The people who walk in darkness will see a great light.** For those who live in a land of deep darkness/they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death **a light will shine.**

John 1:4

The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.
⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

What is the role of a prophet? Deuteronomy 18 I will raise up a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell the people everything I command him. **19** I will personally deal with anyone who will not listen to the messages the prophet proclaims on my behalf.

God speaks to us through the prophets. Hosea 12:10 I sent my prophets to warn you with many visions and parables.

God reveals His plans to the prophets. Amos 3:7 Indeed, the Sovereign Lord never does anything until he reveals his plans to his servants the prophets.

How did God speak to His prophets? Numbers 12:6, And the Lord said to them, "Now listen to what I say: "If there were prophets among you, I, the Lord, would reveal myself in visions. I would speak to them in dreams.

Why did God send prophets? 2 Chronicles 24:19, Yet the Lord sent prophets to bring them back to him. The prophets warned them, but still the people would not listen. **God uses prophets to lead His people and to protect them.**

Hosea 12:13, Then by a prophet the Lord brought Jacob's descendants[a] out of Egypt; and by that prophet they were protected

God's Message of Coming Light: Isaiah 9: 1 Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever. The land of Zebulun and Naphtali will be humbled, but there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory. ² The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness/they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death a light will shine. ³ You will enlarge the nation of Israel, and its people will rejoice. They will rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest and like warriors dividing the plunder. ⁴ For you will break the yoke of their slavery and lift the heavy burden from their shoulders. You will break the oppressor's rod, just as you did when you destroyed the army of Midian. ⁵ The boots of the warrior and the uniforms bloodstained by war will all be burned. They will be fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on His shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

⁶ For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. Psalm 2: ⁷ The king proclaims the Lord's decree: "The Lord said to me, 'You are my son. Today I have become your Father. ⁸ Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession.

The government will rest on his shoulders." Genesis 49: 10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from his descendants, until the coming of the one to whom it belongs, the one whom all nations will honor.

Wonderful Counselor Philippians 2:6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God (in terms of privilege) as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.

Hebrews 4:15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. 16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Proverbs 3:6 "Seek *his* will in all you do, and he will direct your paths."

1 Corinthians 1: 24 But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.³⁰ God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself.

Mighty God Titus 2: We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, 13 while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.

Everlasting Father John 10:30 The Father and I are one."

John 14: 9 Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!

- **He inhabits and possesses eternity.** Isaiah 57:15 "For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones'" (ISA. 57:15).

- **His name is eternal.** Psalm 72:17 "His name shall endure forever; His name shall continue as long as the sun. And men shall be blessed in Him; all nations shall call Him blessed" (PS. 72:17).

- **He is the eternal provider.** Revelation 21:6-7 "He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son'"

Prince of Peace. ⁷ His government and the peace among men and the peace it will bring will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

The hope is forgiveness. Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let's settle this," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool.

The Light HAS come

Luke 167 Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and gave this prophecy:⁶⁸ "Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people. ⁶⁹ He has sent us a mighty Savior from the royal line of his servant David, ⁷⁰ just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago. ⁷¹ Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. ⁷² He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant—⁷³ the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham. ⁷⁴ We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness. for as long as we live. ⁷⁶ "And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. ⁷⁷ You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ Because of God's tender mercy, ***the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us.***

.....and the Light WILL come!

Hebrews 1:1 Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. 2 And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. 3 The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven.

The Good News of Christmas is that the Light has come.....to bring light into YOUR darkness and to ultimately OVERCOME the darkness forever.