

THE GIFT THE WORLD NEEDS MOST

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TEXT: ISAIAH 9:6-7

“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, and 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.” NIV

INTRODUCTION:

The problems of our world, and the one into which Jesus was born are similar in many ways: wars, famine, poverty, injustice, cruelty, and more. *It is important to note that these problems are not and have never been a reflection of God’s level of care for humanity, but rather are a mirror reflection of the nature of humanity itself.* People often blame God for allowing bad things to happen to good people, yet countless millions do not allow God to have any say in their lives or even follow the “golden rule.” If the condition of the world says anything, it says to humanity, “Look at your own reflection and *see your need* of a Savior.”

This Christmas, the gift the world needs most is the one we know was given in the form of Jesus Christ! (John 3:16) Consider the **attributes** of this most wonderful gift found in Isaiah 9:6-7.

I. GOD’S GREATEST GIFT WAS IN THE FORM OF A CHILD—JESUS.

- A. **“A child is born”** – This speaks of the incarnation of Jesus Christ.
- B. **“A son is given”** –This speaks of the all-sufficient sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- C. **“The government will be on his shoulders”**—This speaks of His strength to govern His people.

II. JESUS POSSESSES THE TRAITS OF AN ALL-SUFFICIENT SAVIOR.

- A. **Wonderful counselor**—He is our Advocate.
- B. **Mighty God**—He is a God of strength.
- C. **Everlasting Father**—He is the creator and originator of all things.
- D. **Prince of Peace**—Peace is His domain. He rules or presides over peace.

III. THE KINGDOM OF THE SAVIOR WILL KNOW NO END.

- A. **His rule, and the peace he brings, will not end**—the Kingdom of God is eternal. Its existence is “now, but not yet.” That means it is a reality in our hearts but has not yet seen its ultimate fulfillment.
- B. **David’s throne**—God’s promise to Abraham will be completely fulfilled. Given to Abraham in Genesis, repeated throughout the Old and New Testaments and seen as fulfilled in Revelation 21.

Genesis 17:3-8

³ Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

See also: Exodus 6:7-8 (NIV): ⁷“I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. ⁸And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.”

And Revelation 21:1-4: Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

- C. **Justice and righteousness will prevail.** Only God can truly bring justice and righteousness. The entire fifth chapter of Amos is a call to God’s people to execute justice and righteousness. God says,

“I hate, I despise your religious festivals;
your assemblies are a stench to me.

²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.

Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.

²³ Away with the noise of your songs!

I will not listen to the music of your harps.

²⁴ **But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream! (Bold added)**

In Revelation 19:10-12 the Lord himself executes judgment: John writes, “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.” (NIV)

Conclusion

As previously said, the terrible events of this world say nothing about God, but of our own need for a Savior. The world and its struggles and horrors serve only as a mirror to reflect humanity's image. It shows us for who we are! We are sinful by nature and in need of a Savior and a Savior is the gift the world needs most! Jesus Christ is that gift!

Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 1:15, “Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.” (NIV)