

Sunday, 16 December 2007

Isaiah 9: 6-7

Isa 9:6-7 A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called, "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace." His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the end of time. The LORD Almighty is determined to do all this.

Who was that baby, born on Christmas day?

Here we find one of the earliest Scriptures foretelling of the birth of Jesus Christ. Isaiah told Israel about this baby that will be born, and what the significance of this baby would be. He said that this baby will be called "Wonderful Counselor" for that is what Jesus had become for all who are in pain, and all those suffering. How wonderful is it to know that when all is going wrong, Jesus will always be there for us, guiding us, and supporting us. What would have become of us, had we not have such a "wonderful Counselor"

The baby would have been called "Mighty God". Although this was often misunderstood, and in the early days, a person crowned as king would have been seen as a son of God, as a king would represent God on earth, we now know that this was not only a symbolic reference to a mighty ruler that would free the nation from bondage, but it refers to a person that is truly God. And a mighty God indeed. Nothing is impossible for our God.

The baby would have been called "Eternal Father". This is something so wonderful that was taught by Jesus in the New Testament. He taught us the "Our Father". Jesus who Himself is God, told us about God, the Father. We learned that our God is truly a father who cares about us. He is the Father whose arms that will carry us, protects us, comfort us, and with an enduring love, bless us, not because we are deserving, but because of that Love.

The Baby was also to be called the "Prince of Peace". How amazing is the peace we see in a person that is walking close to God. It is a peace we can neither understand, nor explain. It is a peace that touches lives, and it is not changeable by the circumstances surrounding the person possessing it. It is the peace of God. The closer we come to God, the more evident this peace will be in our lives. How wonderful will it be in heaven, a place where this peace will strongly rule forever.

Now, we are at Christmas, and we celebrate the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy. The Christ baby was born. We are sharing a wonderful time of the year, but also a time when we think back on those that have passed away, and have gone ahead of us. It is a time of nostalgic reflection, and often leaves us with a tear in the eye. But be comforted with the knowledge that because this child was born, but also died, and conquered the grave and death, that we have an eternal live waiting on us, and we will one day reunite with our loved ones. Let the memories of Christmases gone by bring a smile on your face, thanking God for all the beautiful memories, and looking forward to the wonderful day when we will all be together, gathered at the throne of Christ, praising Him for giving us Christmas, and so much more.

* Should you wish to write me, and are in need of someone who would listen and pray with you... Please do. david@davidniebuhr.com

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