

THE GOD-MAN:

A Child Born, A Son Given

Isaiah 9:1-7



The prophet Isaiah gave a wonderful prophecy 700 years before Christ was born. In Isaiah 9:6 we learn of a Child to be born (His humanity) and a Son to be given (His Deity—John 3:16). Isaiah had previously foretold the virgin birth (*Isa. 7:14*), emphasizing both His humanity (“a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son”) and His Deity (“His name Immanuel,” meaning “God with us”). The coming Messiah would be the earth’s King, with the government (rule, dominion) resting on His shoulder. Four names are given to this divine Child, each name consisting of two Hebrew words:

✧1) **Wonderful Counselor.** The Hebrew term “wonderful” means “that which surpasses human thought and power, incomprehensible.” He is the wonder of wonders! The word is used in Judges 13:18 of the name of the Angel of the LORD who in verse 22 is identified as God. See also Isaiah 28:29 where the counsel of the LORD of hosts is said to be wonderful or unfathomable.

✧2) **Mighty God.** Compare this identical phrase found in Isaiah 10:20-21 where “Mighty (Heroic) God” refers to the LORD, the Holy One of Israel. Here His deity is emphasized.

✧3) **Eternal Father.** This is not suggesting that the Messiah will be God the Father. The Persons of the Godhead are always distinct. Isaiah’s prophecy is emphasizing that with respect to His people Israel, He will ever be *as a* Father (Provider/Protector): “Thou, O LORD, art **our Father**; our Redeemer; Thy Name is **from everlasting**” (*Isaiah 63:16 and Psalm 103:13*).

✧4) **Prince (Ruler) of Peace.** His future reign of peace is described in Isaiah 2:4: “And He shall judge among the nations...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.”

***** *O come, let us adore Him!* *****

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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