

INTRODUCTION

- * The season of Advent is a time to reflect upon the incarnation of Jesus the Christ (YHWH in the flesh) who came in order to be the payment of our sins. He did this in order that we might be reconciled to God and have peace with God. This was important in order that we might be able to live with God for all of eternity – eternal **life** does not begin after you die, but when you are reconciled to God!
- * The incarnation of YHWH Himself was not something that was kept secret. Rather, YHWH gave many indicators of this as we have seen as we studied the book of Zechariah.
- * In the first week we considered the importance of a name in Jewish thought. We also considered the importance that YHWH placed upon His Name and saw that His name is intricately interwoven with His glory.
 - Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD, that is My name; and **My glory I will not give to another**, nor My praise to carved images.
 - Isaiah 48:11 For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; For how should My name be profaned? And **I will not give My glory to another**
- * In this series we are considering the four Names in Isaiah 9:6 by which the Child to be born would be called. Each of the doublets refer to YHWH Himself and point back to the prophecy given in Isaiah 7:14. The past two weeks we considered the first two of the doublets: “Wonderful Counselor” and “Mighty God”. From the use of those words in Hebrew in the Old Testament, it is compelling and overwhelming that these are titles for YHWH, the LORD Himself. Thus, YHWH Himself is promising in Isaiah 9:6 that YHWH will come as a child and become One called by these names.
- * This week we shall examine the third doublet, “Everlasting Father.”

INSTRUCTION**I. EVERLASTING FATHER ‘ad ‘av****A. EVERLASTING = ‘ad Hebrew #5703**

= perpetuity, continuance, for ever

Categories of usage in the Old Testament

1. of God Ex 15:18; Ps 45:6; Ps 111:3; Ps 112:3; Is 57:15
2. of things God does 1 Chr 28:9; Ps 9:5; Ps 21:46; Ps 89:29; Ps 111:7-8
3. of things as God made them Ps 104:5; Dan 12:3; Hab 3:6
4. of things people aspire to, or wish
Jb 19:23-24; Ps 45:17; Ps 52:8; Ps 61:8; Ps 83:17; Ps 119:44; Is 47:7

‘ad can also go forward or backward – see Jb 19:24 and Jb 20:4 as examples

B. FATHER = ‘av Hebrew #1

= strength of the house, i.e. father, ancestor, head, founder

C. Jesus and the Father are One

John 1:16-18; John 10:30; John 14:6-10

D. The Heart of the Everlasting Father

1. Deuteronomy 32 (“Father” verse Deuteronomy 32:6)
2. Isaiah 64 (“Father” verse Isaiah 64:8)
3. Psalm 103 (“father” verse Psalm 103:13)

INTROSPECTION

- * WHO IS JESUS TO YOU?
- * DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT HE IS THE EVERLASTING FATHER?
- * DO YOU SUBMIT TO HIS LEADERSHIP AND GUIDANCE?
- * DO YOU RUN TO HIM WHEN THINGS ARE HARD OR SCARY?
- * DO YOU FIND COMFORT “in His lap”?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

It may be helpful to re-read the passage before the discussion.

- * How should Jesus being the Everlasting Father affect our response to discipline as He corrects and refines us?
- * How do we reconcile Jesus being the Everlasting Father and yet within the Godhead Jesus is the Son and distinct from the Father (and the Spirit)?

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