

## INTRODUCTION

- \* Happy Christmas Eve! If you've been with us either in person or via Zoom (or keeping up by listening to the messages on the various platforms where they are posted online), you know that we've been taking a deep dive into Isaiah 9:6 this month, with a focus on the four titles for Yahweh given in that verse... Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. And because Jesus is Yahweh (God in the flesh), these titles also find fulfillment in His two advents – the one we celebrate at Christmas (Feast of the Incarnation) and the one we are confidently waiting for.
- \* As a quick review, Steve started us out 3 weeks ago by sharing the many ways that Yahweh is our **WONDERFUL COUNSELOR**. Among many other things, this title speaks to God's omnipotence and that His counsel is good and perfect and therefore worthy of our continual pursuit.
- \* Then David focused our attention on the title **MIGHTY GOD** two weeks ago. He shared 3 key examples of God's might being displayed for His people, the greatest of which is our salvation... that He gives us Eternal Life through Christ!
- \* Last week Bob took us through the third title, **EVERLASTING FATHER**, or more accurately father (or progenitor) of eternity. As a result, Yahweh alone is able to give us eternal life (consider the link between Isaiah 9:6a and John 3:16).
- \* And this morning, we will examine the many ways that Messiah Jesus is our **PRINCE OF PEACE**, both in this life and in the life to come. But before we explore that title for God/Jesus, let's consider some additional context regarding Isaiah 9:6-7...

## INSTRUCTION

### I. The Context and Two A\_\_\_\_\_ of Isaiah 9:6-7 (Advent: From the Latin, meaning "to come")

- Isaiah 9:6-7 lies at the heart of a series of Messianic prophecies found in Isaiah 7 through 12 through which Isaiah progressively reveals amazing truths about God's Messiah. Highlights include:
  - Chapter 7 – God provides a sign and promise of hope that is summarized in verse 14.
  - Chapter 9 – Isaiah reveals the nature and character of Messiah.
  - Chapter 11 – Isaiah provides a description of the reigning Messiah.
  - Chapter 12 concludes the section with a celebratory song of salvation.
- Christ's 1<sup>st</sup> Advent in Is. 9:6-7: Jesus comes to S\_\_\_\_\_... Unto Us a Child is Born (Mt. 1:18-25), A Son is Given (John 1:1-4, 14). This speaks to both Jesus's h\_\_\_\_\_ and His d\_\_\_\_\_. He is the infinite God-man.
- Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent in Is. 9:6-7: Jesus comes to R\_\_\_\_\_... The rest of Isaiah 9:6-7. Though aspects of this were revealed through Jesus during His first advent, its ultimate fulfillment is still future to us. See also Ps. 2:6-8; **Jer. 23:5-6**; Jer. 33:14-17; **Luke 1:30-33**.

### II. The Title: P\_\_\_\_\_ of P\_\_\_\_\_

- Sar Shalom in the Hebrew. Only use of this title in Scripture. Closest match is perhaps Daniel's reference to "Messiah the Prince" in Daniel 9:25, but a different Hebrew word for prince is used there.
- Prince - Heb. Sar (H8269) – very common word, but not as a reference to Yahweh. In this regard, it is similar to "The Prophet" that Moses referred to in Dt. 18:15-18. Messiah is not "a" prince of peace, but THE PRINCE OF PEACE.
- Peace - Heb. Shalom (H7965) and Greek eirēnē (G1515) – together they appear in nearly every book of the Bible (59 of 66 books).
- Our Misunderstanding - The difference between the world's pursuit of shalom (always temporal and unsustainable) and the true shalom that only God can provide.

### III. The S\_\_\_\_\_ and I\_\_\_\_\_ Peace of Jesus's First Advent

- Our REAL Problem – We were God's enemies and without hope due to our sin! (Romans 5:10)
- God's Solution – JESUS Messiah! (Romans 5:8-10; Colossians 1:19-20)
- The "Terms of the Peace Treaty" and the Result – Romans 5:1-2
- **Peace with God** is what Jesus came to offer. Permanent for those that accept this amazing gift by faith. (Jn. 14:27, 16:33; Mt. 11:28-30; Philippians 4:6-7; Galatians 5:22-23)
- The Challenge – Though followers of Christ have this peace, many do not. Peace with God through Christ often brings conflict with the world (Mt. 10:34; Luke 12:51). We live in a fallen world that impacts us. And our residual sin nature also impacts us.
- Therefore, we wait patiently for the full restoration of true shalom...

### IV. The P\_\_\_\_\_ and E\_\_\_\_\_ Peace of Jesus's Second Advent

- THE PROMISE: Jesus is coming again! (John 14:1-3)
- THE WARNING: He will conquer and judge those that have rejected Him (Is. 9:7; Rev. 19:11-16) – There are consequences for rejecting the saving peace He offers.
- TRUE SHALOM AT LAST: Jesus will set up His perfect and eternal kingdom in which true shalom will be experienced both internally (Rev. 21:1-5a) and externally (Rev. 22:1-5). Garden life restored!

## INTROSPECTION

- \* Have you availed yourself of the peace with God that surpasses all understanding by accepting Jesus as your Savior from sin? If not, why not right now? It will make this Christmas your best Christmas celebration ever!
- \* Assuming you have, who do you need to share this truth with so that this Christmas can be their best Christmas ever? (Romans 10:15)
- \* Where is peace lacking in your life this morning? Have you fully turned that over to your "Prince of Peace"?
- \* How actively are you looking for, and looking forward to, the return of King Jesus? As you celebrate His first advent today and tomorrow, make sure you don't forget His promised second advent!
- \* In light of the fact that Messiah Jesus is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace, is there a need to change the way you think and therefore change the way you act?

## INTERACTION

How do we as a church foster a greater sense of personal and corporate completeness and wholeness (shalom)? What are some ways we can share this "shalom" with those outside our assembly?