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"SON GIVEN"

Isaiah 9

INTRODUCTION:

Several years ago we went through Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. Never forget the feeling when the lights were suddenly switched off. It was black as midnight. It was dark like a closed tomb. You dare not move.

In a little while we were in the sunlight.

This is the idea the prophet uses in Chapter 9. Multitudes of people walk in spiritual darkness - in darkness far blacker than that of a cave.

He next speaks of light as we note it on Christmas Day. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote "Tis always morning somewhere". The Prophet speaks of light in the darkest day.

Let us see first, The Shadow Of Darkness. Second, The Shining Of Light. Third, The Suffering By Fire.

I. The Shadow Of Darkness - Verse 1-2.

Chpt 8:22 Darkness followed by Dawn

Verse 1 - Dimness cast over - Land of Zebulun and Naphtali. Northern Tribes  
*Nazareth of tribe of* | *Obscure*  
Affliction reached Nations beyond. *Far from Temple.*

✓ Read

Matt. 4:12-16 - They will see the light.

Verse 2 - Walked in darkness. Words, misery, death, sin. Miss the mark.

Pattern of God. Depravity. Men love darkness, why? John 3:19.

Deeds are evil. Prov. 4:19. "The way of wickedness is a darkness."

Idea - a sense of insecurity accompanied by fear.

Darkness increases danger and fear at the same time.

John 7:52

Great Light - Hope for the man in the dark. You, who are in darkness today can find lights for your problem.

Jesus feared Nazareth of tribe Zebulun. He brings Hope to the Hopeless! - He comes to darkness, remoteness  
Teenage mother, turned away from only accommodation? ... "Congregation of  
Shepherds!  
by Tyrant Herod!  
Consider facts of Christmas - Everything about situation hopeless!

He Brings Peace to The Peaceless / 15 - Ends Way of War, There is Way of Peace!  
-2- No Need Noise of "  
" " implements " - These waiting to burn an  
Fuel for a fire,

## II. Shining Of A Light - Verse 3-7.

Verse 3 - Joy will increase. This is no common feeling, it is the joy of harvest -- victory.

As long as men are in darkness and wickedness it will be miserable.

Harvest - sowing but now the ingathering, increase, plenty in the barn. Bread to eat. Wheat -- corn.

Compare - Christian (victory) over human temptations!

2 Cor. 4:6. "God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness - hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ".

Verse 4 - Liberty - Jehovah's intervention - Midianites described as a yoke or burden, a rod of oppression.

Gideon with 300 men -- without weapons, trumpets, lamps, pitchers - defeated Midian.

Here is God's Pattern - if he delivered others, he will work for us. This ought to be our encouragement.

Verse 5 - Men wage their battles with noise - military equipment - garments rolled in blood.

This victory is to be of God - A prince is to be born in Bethlehem.

Contrast to blood conquerors of this world.

Verse 6 - Great Prophecy of the Messiah! Passage set to music - thrilling truth! Here is the story of Christmas.

"Unto us a child is born. *this Govt. is personal!*

Unto us a son is given!

Us - Means "all mankind".

Darkness and the light is given -- son given!

Frank Boreham, notes that during darkest year of wars during

Napoleon's time a number of babies of light were born.

He Brings Government to The ungovernable

V.6 Administrator of the universe.  
V.7 Cynic looking at world 1991 would laugh at this promise - But the fulfillment is not dependent on the cynic or Believer.  
(Zeal of the Lord will perform it)

- Gladstone - Born in Liverpool.
- Alfred Tennyson - Born in Somersby Rectory.
- Oliver Wendell Holmes - Born in Massachusetts.
- Charles Darwin - Born in Shrewsbury.
- Abraham Lincoln - Born in Kentucky.
- Felix Mendelssohn - Born in Hamburg.
- Samuel Moreley - Born in Homerton.
- Edward Fitzgerald - Born in Woodbridge.
- Frances Kemble - Born in London.

The son given is a source of everlasting joy. Children may learn of this at Christmas but it does not profit unless it becomes personal.

Government - helps when invited with the government of men. However, this is a new type.

The Names given the son! Five names are given here. Names are important. The Prophet uses the names of two of his sons to deliver a message in Chapter 7 and 8.

Some of you listening to me now were named for your grandmother or some other great person.

A glance at the Bible indicates names contain a purpose. "Adam called his wife Eve" - Mother of the living.

Moses - drawn out of the Ark of Bul-rushes.

Prov. 22:1 - "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches".

Indians used names to convey truth. Eagle eye, Buffalo Face, Sleepy eye, Black Hawk, Red Cloud, Rain-In-The-Face, are names that tell something.

Someone has said 256 names have been given to Jesus. Five of these are given in this one verse by the Prophet.

His name shall be called:

WONDERFUL - A miracle. Ex. 15:11 "Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?"

Every word he spoke, every act he did, tells of him as Wonderful. He was sinless and yet the friends of sinners. This is wonderful!

He was above in a class by Himself. His character was wonderful.

He was wonderful in His miracles, His comfort, His power to raise the dead.

Your name will mean something wonderful also if recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life. Not just carved on a tombstone in the church yard.

2 - COUNSELLOR - Wisdom!

Acquainted with the counsels of God from eternity. He has given his counsel to the children of men. Ps. 16:7., Rev. 3:18. He speaks the truth.

We spread our difficulties before Christ in prayer. He gives to us the guidance we seek.

3 - THE MIGHTY GOD - Almighty. Hero of strength. From eternity He was God.

Strength - able to save.

Looking forward to 700 years to the birth of a son. John 3:16. God gave his only begotten Son -- Authority -- He overcame Satan in the wilderness temptation experience.

He overcame the world by a sinless life.

He overcame the flesh.

He overcame death, and the grave by the resurrection.

Charles Lamb said, "If Shakespeare were to come into this room we would rise to do him honor.

If Christ were to enter this room we would bow before Him in worship."

Put your trust in the mighty God with redeeming power.

4 - THE EVERLASTING FATHER - Father of Eternity - Father of everlasting life.

Men of the east were often given a name and a title which signified some equality or characteristic for which they were famous. One could be Father of wisdom or Father of folly.

James and John were called the "sons of thunder".

This particular prophecy speaks of the "Father of Perpetuity, Father of The Forever" - Lordship of eternity. John 1:1, 4.

Title of Deity.

Title of the giver of everlasting life. John 3:36. Rom 6:23.

Title of one who will never vacate His office. Rev. 1:8.

He always was -- He is -- He shall be for evermore!

What a Saviour the Christian has. They need not fear. There is no place in the Christians life where the Father is not.

5 THE PRINCE OF PEACE - Commands unbroken peace. Provide an eternal Sabbath of Peace.

He brings individual peace.

Makes it possible for man to be at peace with God and for men to live at peace with one another.

Man hungers for peace. America wants peace. Distressed people want peace.

Research laboratories will never produce the miracle of peace.

Prosperity may be present but there is an absence of peace.

Substitutes of education, wealth, friendship have not brought peace in the world.

Prince of Peace is God's gift. Numbers 6:24-26. The Priests of the Old Testament. Blessed the people with benediction of peace. ("The Lord bless Thee and keep Thee; The Lord make his face shine upon Thee and be gracious unto Thee; The Lord lift up his countenance upon Thee, and give Thee peace.")

Psa. 29:11. "The Lord will bless his people with peace".

Isa. 26:3, 4 "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee".

Paul - 2 Thes. 3:16 "Now the Lord of Peace himself give you peace always by all means".

Prince of Peace bears along with sinners. His peace cannot be purchased or won of the battlefield.

His peace is surrender to the principle of love. Col. 3:4.

Melchizedek - King of Salem - King of Peace.

Solomon -- "The peaceful one".

Verse 7 - The Empire of Christ -- Increase of Government.

Throne of David - 2 Sam. 7:16. "And Thine house and they Kingdom shall be established for ever before Thee: Thy throne shall be establish for ever".

Micah 5:3 - Of His government there shall be no end.

There is no other influence in the world like that of Christ. It shall be a multiplying government -- enlarged -- added to daily.

Monarchies of the earth begin in gold and dwindle by degrees into clay.

He shall rule by love and peace and give the rightful government.

It shall be an everlasting Kingdom -- no end to its increase.

David called him Lord, and King in the Psalms.

Isaiah called him the sure corner stone, Immanuel, The Prince of Peace, The Mighty God, Everlasting Father -- Wonderful.

No stagnation in His Kingdom. No limit to his reign or duration.

Day coming when "every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father".

### III. Suffering By Fire - Verse 8-21

This is part of the Prophecy I expect He had no pleasure in delivering.

Threatenings - Prophecy to Jacob - The 10 Northern Tribes of Israel.

#### 1. Storm Announced - Verse 8-12.

Verse 8 - Designates - Sends warning before Judgment.

Pride - Stoutness - Thinking they were a match for God.

Superb courage that is high among men.

Verse 10 - Human Confidence:

Brick: If Judgment destroy our brick houses we will replace them with stone.

Sycamore: If these be cut down by enemies we will replace them with cedar, a better tree! Good timber!

Verse 11 - Rezin - Adversarie is Assyrians - Foe now of Israel.

Verse 12 - Syria Before

Philistines Behind

Devour Israel with open mouth.

Design of this Judgment - "Repentance" - Hand stretched out.

Human nature fails to see disaster, sufferings, sorrows, wars, earthquakes, famines, a call to Repentance.

Verse 13 - The blow falls. They do not turn. Harden their hearts.

✓ 2. Sinful Leaders - Verse 14-17

Verse 14-16 - One Day - Quick Action.

Civil Leaders - Head - Branch.

According to position of honor because of birth, age, and office. These were the Head and Branch which should have had fruit. Cut off!

Spiritual leaders - tail - rush.

False prophets, lying prophets - they are the mire - rush, unclean. A wicked minister is the worst of men. The blind leading the blind and both end in the ditch.

Verse 17 - Wicked Universal - Subjects Corrupt.

No mercy for widows and little children. The community is insane which demands its prophets to prophesy only smooth things. He should not speak to flatter but give truth.

Count the preacher your friend not your enemy when he utters the just and truth!

3. Sweeping Fire - Verse 18 - 21.

Verse 18 - Distraction of sin - idea of a wilful turning away from known truth. They knew the truth.

Fire - unchecked - unkindered.

Briers - thorns - sinners are combustible material.

Thickets - whole land.

How true a trivial thing may seem small - a little heap of dried leaves and sticks.

Cannot burn one acre of forest. If you kindle a fire in the forest at all, it will advance as far and as long as there is fuel for it.

Power of a small spark - passion - lust - dishonest act - one drink - man's passions will go on burning long after he may wish it to stop. Fire consumes the flowers, the craders, the bramble.

It is foolish to make sport of sin!

Verse 19 - Fuel For the Fire - Eternal Punishment. Lake of fire.

Sinners fuel for the fire. Wheat field. Spreads over a field of stubble. Smoke darkens the land. Burnt up.

No man shall spare his brother! Helpless.

Place one spark - amid combustible material as in Chesapeake last week at the Veneer Plant. (Firemen Injured). What will be the result? It will leap from one point to another -- house to house - street to street - until a whole city is in flames. Sin has spread in the same way. Sin of one person may touch many.



Verse 20 - No Satisfaction -- Hungry Still.

Great Famine - Little to eat.

Great Plunder - Little to be found.

Verse 21 - Manasseh and Ephraim last of the Tribes to stand.

Next - unite against Judah.

Mercy extended - Hand still stretched out.

Unhappiness - misery - separation from God.

Hell is very real - wickedness - state of being over against what God has for those who love. Suffering eternal. Closer we get to God nearer we are to Heaven. Disturbed - find in Christ the love of God -- Peace.

God has not changed his mind about Hell.

Samson - Tim with judges 14  
new Popes -

16:21 Philistines put out his eyes -

Total Darkness

v 25 - make sport -

Pillars

Prayer - strengthen me just once! Avenge for this Darkness!  
Victory - God's hands Reached out -

if your situation Dark -