

## Sermon On Isaiah 9 vs 2-7 Synopsis

Christmas seems all about presents and it is, but it's really about one very special gift from God to us at Christmas – the gift of Jesus. Let's unwrap our present with Isaiah's help.

Jesus is a light shining in the darkness (verse 2). He is the light of the world. His light like a candle flame in the darkness brings us hope, comfort and encouragement. Unlike a candle flame which goes out His light shines for ever. His light also shows up the darkness – the sin in our lives. He doesn't give out to us about our sin but He died on the cross to redeem us from them.

His names in verse 6 show what He was like. Everything about His life and Himself was wonderful, from His birth, His teachings and His death and resurrection. He is a very wise counsellor who gives us help in our troubles and guides us in life. He is God and He is eternal. He is the Prince of Peace who through His death and resurrection restored us to a peaceful relationship with God. He also came to give us peace in ourselves, peace despite our difficulties or circumstances, peace in the midst of our storms.

An amazing gift but there is more. He came to rule and reign on David's throne over God's chosen people. He established that spiritual kingdom through His death and resurrection. In the past the chosen people were the Israelites or Jews, now they are all who receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour. His rule is unlike the empires of the past in that it is not with fear and oppression. Jesus rules with justice, righteousness and with peace and His kingdom will never end.

What will you do with God's amazing gift to us. A gift that really keeps on giving. Will you reject Him- God will be very sad. Will you take your gift and leave it unopened in your house. None of the above are of any use to you unless you open your gift. Will you be like a child, rip the wrapping off and gaze in wonder at the gift itself. If you do God promises to all who receive Him, to all who believe in His name He gives the right to become children of God. What will you do with God's gift to you this Christmas time?