

A Christmas Promise

Isaiah 9:1-7

All Scripture is the very breath of God therefore I will strive to know it and live in its truths.

Introduction: Promises, Promises that is what we hear all the time!

- A. Politicians (need I say more) they promise everything and anything to get a vote!
- B. Preachers: Please send a “free will donation of 100.00” and I promise God will return it to you one hundred fold “You will be rich”!
 - And this list certainly continues!
- But church we know that these are not really promises they are lies!
- C. And what about our promises:
 1. Little Johnny I promise I will play with you when I get home (that is if I am not too tired)
 - A lot of those kinds of promises to.
 - What about?
 2. God I promise I will do whatever you call me to do, I will walk where you tell to walk, say what you would have me say, I will serve where you tell to serve, God I promise I will not let anyone or anything stop me from following your direction for my life!
- Church we must be very careful what we promise!
 - *33 “Again, you have heard that [g]the ancients were told, [h]You shall not [i]make false vows, but shall fulfill your [j]vows to the Lord.’ 34 But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by*

the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or [k]by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Matthew 5:33-35

= Church, we use the word promise to say what we intend to do, but a promise is much more than that!

- The word promise has very strong meaning, it does not mean that we will try our best, or we will do everything in our power to make it happen. A promise means simply and powerfully, it will happen!
- We say that we will do everything in our power to keep our promises the problem though is just that we are limited in our power!
- But if a promise is to do everything in your power to make it happen and we believe that God has all power than will God not always keep His promise?
 - Church we can fully put our trust in the promises of God!

Transition: Now this brings us to our text.

A. First promise: A Child will be born!

I. God Promises a Gift verse 6

A. That is a promise from God!

- *14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a [a]virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name [b]Immanuel.* Isaiah 7:14

1. There is going to be a child born, of course there millions and millions of children are going to be born!

- But this was not going to be just any it was going to be "A Child!"
 - He was not going to just be born He was going to be given!
- B. God was promising the Christ Child:
 1. He would be born, not unlike any other human being.
 - Mary and Joseph would have to wait nine months

- Mary would experience labor pains
- Mary would have to nurse the baby
- This child would be born!
 2. But this child would be given! **By Who?**
 - He would be the Son of God!
- God's promise was that He would send His only begotten Son: *6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be [f]grasped, 7 but [g]emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death [h]on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* Philippians 2:6-11
- C. God was not simply promising that He would send Jesus into the world but He was giving Jesus to the world!
 1. Jesus is the gift of God's amazing grace!
 2. Jesus is the gift of God's mercy!
 3. Jesus is the gift of God's incredible salvation!
- A Child would be born and a child would be given!
- Church not a single gift has ever been earned or merited in any way that is why it is called a gift!

= When Isaiah writes that a child will be born a Son will be given he is talking about the gift of salvation for those that believe!

- *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and [a]that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*

Ephesians 2:8-10

Transition: God promised the gift of salvation to man, and cannot and will not break His promise!

2 What does this promised gift look like? Who is He?

II. Who is the Promise verse 6-7

A. First Jesus is wonderful counselor:

1. The word wonderful means that He is a different counselor.
2. The counselor means one that directs and guides.

➤ Together Jesus will guide and direct our paths in a different direction than the world!

= Jesus would be born the promise of God that His son would be born but it would be for a reason: To seek and to save the lost and to direct their paths accords to His righteousness!

- *Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," 6 so that we confidently say, Hebrews 13:5-6*

➤ God promise in His Son Jesus is that He will never leave us wondering around.

- Jesus is the Wonderful Counselor, that is a promise to guide us in a different and amazing way!

B. Second Jesus is the mighty God!

1. The name used for God here is "El" it means power and might!

2. Jesus will exhibit His power: He will heal the lame, He will cause the blind to see, He will change water into wine, He will cast out demons, He walked on water, He raised the dead, He overcame temptation, and He defeated death, hell and the grave!

➤ He has power over life and death in the flesh but more importantly He is mighty to save us from our sin!

- *“The Lord your God is in your midst,*

A victorious warrior.

He will exult over you with joy,

He will be quiet in His love,

He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy. Zephaniah 3:17

- *For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”* Luke 19:10

= God’s promise is a mighty God!

C. Third He will be Eternal Father

1. He will be a Father with no end.

- The promise of God in Christ does not have a beginning nor does it have an end.

➤ God promises that in His Son that we will have an eternal: Protector, Provider and Authority.

- This description of the Jesus the promise of God certainly points to His deity but it also reveals His role as our authority and the one that will take care of our needs including our greatest need, saved from our sin!

D. Fourth He will be the Prince of Peace.

1. Church we live in a chaotic world, full of stress, worry, fear, conflict: But there is a promise of God that in Jesus there is peace.

- *25 "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. 28 You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29 Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. 30 I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; 31 but so that the world may know that I love the Father, [d]I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here. John 14:25-30*

2. The only true peace comes from a relationship with God through His promise in Christ the Prince of Peace!

➤ Jesus in His triumphal return will set up His Kingdom where peace will reign eternal!

- *There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this. Isaiah 9:7*

Closing: In closing I want you to notice the last phrase in verse 7

A. The zeal of the Lord of host will accomplish this!

1. Promises, Promises, Promises!

- We hear those words I promise all the time but they ring different when they come from the mouth of God!

- *“The zeal of the Lord of Host will accomplish this”*
 - The zeal of God!
 - Do you know what zeal means it means everything within you go after the goal!
- The zeal of God everything that God is goes into His promise:
 - *For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will [a]rest on His shoulders;
And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace,
On the throne of David and over his kingdom,
To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness
From then on and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.* Isaiah 9:6-7
- In Bethlehem that night God fulfilled His promise and by the stripes of that baby in the manger we can be healed of our sin sickness, through that promised child, given for the salvation of man we can have eternal life!