

God Will be Born on Earth as a Baby Isaiah 9:1-7

What will Israel face in the future? (8:21-22)

A time of distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish, and thick darkness.

Is that the end of Israel? (9:1-4)

No — God will remove the gloom and bring great light (vv.1-2).

God will vastly increase the number of God's people (v.3).

God will increase Israel's joy in God (v.3).

God will free Israel from all oppression and war (vv.4-5).

How will God do this? (9:6-7)

Through the birth of a baby boy (v.6).

The government will rest on his shoulder (v.6 — see also v.7).

His name will be called Wonderful Counselor (v.6)

Mighty God (v.6 — see also 10:21)

Everlasting Father (v.6)

Prince of Peace (vv.6-7)

Who is this baby boy?

A virgin in the line of David was pregnant with Jesus Christ (Matt 1:20-21).

Jesus' birth was good news of great joy (Luke 2:10-11).

Jesus grew up to be a Wonderful Counselor (Luke 2:47; John 7:46).

Jesus brought great light to Galilee (Matt 4:12-16).

Jesus multiplied the people of God by saving Jews and Gentiles (Mark 7:26ff).

Jesus was Mighty God (Mark 2:1-12).

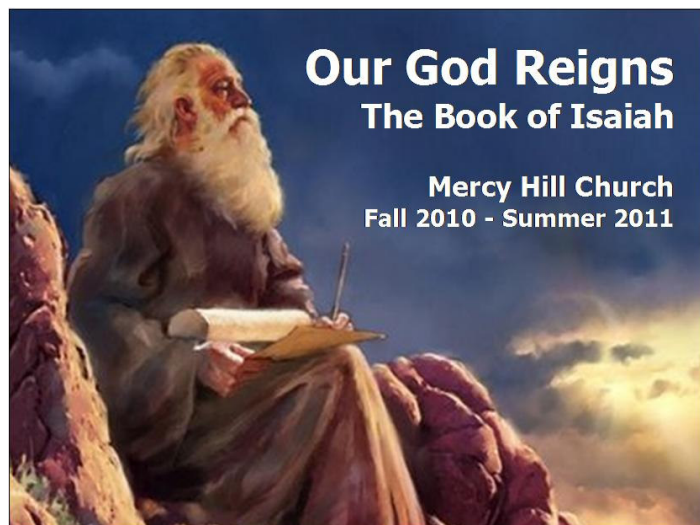
There has been a baby born who fits Isaiah's prophecy — and there's only one baby born who fits Isaiah's prophecies.

What does this mean for us?

Only God could prophesy this 750 years ahead of time.

So this means God was born as a baby ...

And we can know that everything taught by Jesus was true.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Does it make sense that no one could make up this prophecy and its fulfillment?

Does it help you to think that God Himself was born as a baby — so we could see Him and touch Him and know that He exists?

Which of these truths do you need to believe more strongly —

- That God exists
- That we deserve God's wrath
- That we can be forgiven
- That our hearts can be changed
- That we can trust God
- That we are not alone
- That heaven and hell are real
- That God is all-satisfying

What do you think about sharing this passage with a neighbor or work-associate who is not yet trusting Jesus? What makes you hold back from this? What is Jesus saying to you about this?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

