

**Jesus Came Not Just to Give You a Merry Christmas
but to Give You a Merry Life Forever
(Isaiah 9: 1-7)**

1 But there will be no more gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make it glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

*2 The people who walk in darkness
Will see a great light;
Those who live in a dark land,
The light will shine on them.*

*3 You shall multiply the nation,
You shall increase their gladness;
They will be glad in Your presence
As with the gladness of harvest,
As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.*

*4 For You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,
The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.*

*5 For every boot of the booted warrior in the battle tumult,
And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.*

*6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will 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.*

1. God promises to bring His people out of the GLOOM of judgment into the GLORY of salvation (vs. 1).

Then they will look to the earth, and behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish; and they will be driven away into darkness. Isaiah 8: 22

2. God describes the glorious salvation He will bring His people (vs. 2-5).

- He will bring them out of DARKNESS into LIGHT (v. 2).
- He will bring them out of SORROW into GLADNESS (v. 3).
- He will bring them out of OPPRESSION into FREEDOM (v. 4-5).

3. God reveals the child who will bring salvation to His people (vs. 6-7).

- The child is JESUS.

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us...(v. 6a)

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee; 13 and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.

14 This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet:

15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,

By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

16 “The people who were sitting in darkness saw a great Light,

And those who were sitting in the land and shadow of death,

Upon them a Light dawned.”

17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4: 12-17

- The child will RULE THE WORLD.

And the government will rest upon His shoulders...(v. 6b)

He has a name written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Rev. 19: 16

- The child’s character (v. 6c)

And His name will be called

- *Wonderful Counselor (ALL WISE)*
- *Mighty God (ALL POWERFUL)*
- *Everlasting Father (ALL CARING)*
- *Prince of Peace (no HOSTILITY, only perfect TRANQUILITY)*

- The child’s kingdom (v. 7)

- ETERNAL
- filled with JUSTICE & RIGHTEOUSNESS