



The Light Has Come (ISAIAH 9:1-7)
2019 Advent sermon series
By Pastor David Hillis, 12.24.19

BIG IDEA: As we wait on God and pray for the waiting to end, dare we ask God how He is waiting on us? What it is that we need to learn through the waiting?

[Isaiah 7:1-2, 14; 2 Kings 16:2-4; Galatians 4:4-5 \(CEV\), Romans 8:23, Psalm 37:7](#)

- A. It is really hard to understand in difficult seasons of waiting why God does not just *do something*, right?
- B. We think God should just *appear* and *fix* everything, but sometimes God's purpose includes the wait, and the things we learn, the attitudes that are formed in us that do not get developed any other way.
- C. When things get stressful and drag on, when the time feels like it's running out and God doesn't *seem* to be responding, we want to make things happen on our own, thinking we need to help God out and make something happen that short circuits God's best.
- D. God tests all of us in times of waiting. It's a part of life!
- E. Today we await a 2nd Advent, for God to come to the world again, this time to bring the world relief from our pain and suffering.
- F. "The light has come," including for you, regardless of your past choices or mistakes.

NEXT STEP: Are you waiting on God? In what ways is God waiting on you? How will you take a step closer to God in the waiting?

FOR MY PERSONAL TIME WITH GOD THIS WEEK:

1. Review [Isaiah 9:1-7](#). How does Isaiah describe the Redeemer who is promised to God's people? In what ways would these descriptions have been appealing to them? In what ways might they have questioned Isaiah's message? Why is it important that David's

name is mentioned here? How does the New Testament interpret what this prophecy means ([Matthew 4:12-17](#), [Luke 1:32](#), [John 8:12](#))?

2. Read [Galatians 4:4](#). Meditate on the truth that God sent Jesus at just the right moment. The world had been awaiting a Messiah, and God knew the right time to send Him. How can this encourage you to trust God in a season of waiting? Where do you need the peace of the Christ child in your life? How do you need the Prince of Peace to step into your life and begin the process of setting it right?
3. Ultimately, our times of waiting will be over, and all of the pain and suffering with it, at Christ's "2nd Advent," when He will rule the earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Read the following passages and anticipate what that day will look like: [Revelation 20:4-6](#), [Psalm 72](#), [Isaiah 2:1-4](#), [Isaiah 11](#), [Isaiah 65:17-25](#), [Zechariah 14:6-21](#).
4. This Sunday we will conclude our series *Light of the World* by taking a look at our future home, that is lit perpetually by God Himself. We will also see that as we wait for our future home, we are charged to make this place where we now reside a "city on a hill" where others can see and experience Christ's light. To prepare for that message, look back to our key passage from last Sunday ([Matthew 5:14-16](#)) and read [Revelation 21](#) (particularly noticing verse 23). Notice where light is mentioned, and what its significance is.

RESOURCES:

- [Advent: A Season of Waiting and Wondering](#). Read more in this article in New Identity Magazine.
- The context for Isaiah 9 and the promise of Emmanuel was a king in Judah who was fearful and unwilling to wait as God asked. Learn more on Wikipedia about [King Ahaz](#) and the [Syro-Ephraimite War](#).
- [5 Reasons God Makes Us Wait: It's frustrating, but can be transforming](#). Read more in this article in Relevant Magazine.