

International Bible Lessons Commentary
Isaiah 9:6-7

International Bible Lessons
Sunday, March 9, 2014

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The **International Bible Lesson** (*Uniform Sunday School Lessons Series*) for **Sunday, March 9, 2014**, is from **Isaiah 9:6-7**. This commentary is the second part of a three part Bible Lesson that includes Psalms 89:29-37 and Matthew 1:17-25. **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** follow the verse-by-verse *International Bible Lesson Commentary* below. **Study Hints for Thinking Further**, a study guide for teachers, discusses the five questions below to help with class preparation and in conducting class discussion; these hints are available on the **International Bible Lessons Commentary** website. The weekly *International Bible Lesson* is posted each Saturday before the lesson is scheduled to be taught.

International Bible Lesson Commentary

Isaiah 9:6-7

(Isaiah 9:6) For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah the prophet foretold some of the qualities of the Messiah that God promised to send in the line of King David. God would give the Messiah the authority to rule over God's government on earth. No mere mortal would ever be given all of these names. No sane person would apply or claim all of these names for himself. No mere human child would grow up to become Mighty God or Everlasting Father. Only the divine Son of God would be born as a child, named Jesus, and then grow up and serve others in such a way and in such a short period of time (three years of ministry) that He would be given these titles or names. These four titles are sometimes translated into seven titles and descriptions of Jesus: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty, God, Everlasting, Father, Prince of Peace. With the startling claims of these verses, believers can only be amazed at the many miracles that preserved Isaiah 9:6-7 in the Hebrew Scriptures and that Jesus perfectly demonstrated by His life, teachings, and works.

(Isaiah 9:7) His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Upholding justice and righteousness, Jesus came, lived a perfect life in obedience to His Father, and died on a cross to save sinners. After His resurrection from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God

where His authority grows continually as He anticipates coming again into our world as our visible King. His authority has grown throughout the world through His followers. Wherever His people obey His commandments, they demonstrate the justice and righteousness that characterizes His rule. When people have perverted God's justice and righteousness, God has punished them or has allowed them to suffer the natural consequences of their sins (see Romans 1:16-32). When Jesus returns, He will establish endless peace on the earth. Currently, only those who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior know His endless peace in their hearts and minds and among God's people.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

Since this is the second of a three part lesson series, only 1 of the 5 Study Questions will be asked below.

1. Which of the four (or seven) names in Isaiah 9:6 mean the most to you personally? Give a reason for your answer.

Begin or close your class by reading the short weekly *International Bible Lesson*.

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