

Jesus: Hope for Humanity (Part 2)

(Isaiah 9)

Introduction

In what are you putting your hope? (Hope is not wishful thinking. Hope is a confident assurance based on the redemptive work of Christ on the cross.)

The world continues to look to themselves for answers to problems they have created, when in reality One greater than the problems is the only solution.

For example, the world looks to therapy, rehab, and other methods to counteract flawed human behavior, when the answer is a change-heart.

The world looks to treaties, agreements, and political activities to deal with crisis and conflict, when the answer is changed-hearts.

Yes, that may seem simplistic, but the reality is that the problem in most situations is the sin-flawed heart of mankind.

Contextualize this sermon in the series.

Contextualize Isaiah 9.

700 years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah prophesied about Jesus Christ. Times were tough because of foreign domination and the consequence of personal decisions. God's people needed a message of hope. They needed encouragement. They needed a restoration of their joy.

In order to meet those needs, God gave Isaiah, a prophet a message/prophecy of hope. It would encourage the people of Isaiah's time, but also encourage generations to come.

His prophecy contained four promises about the Messiah. Let's notice those four prophecies.)

I. Promised Light (v. 2)

(The setting is the reign of King Ahaz. Ahaz, King of Judah made an alliance with the Assyrian King Tiglath-Peliser. Isaiah 9:1 describes the time. **Anguish** means pressed in. Treated Zebulan and Naphtali with **contempt**. They are situated around the Sea of Galilee.

A) Lived in Darkness.

- 1) Focused on self (Isa. 5)
 - a) Materialism
 - b) Drunkenness (Isa. 5)
 - c) Values turned upside down (Isa 5)

2) Refused to Listen (Isa 7)

3) Consulted with Mediums (Isa 8)

B) God's Solution – Light! (Isaiah 9:2; John 8:12; Exodus 3:14)

Application: We live in a dark, dark world!!!! The answer is Jesus!

II. Promised Joy (v. 3)

(This passage was written to an agrarian society.)

A) Lost joy

B) Restored joy

III. Promised Deliverance (v. 4-5)

(This is referring to the story of Gideon)

A) Deliverance from Bondage (v. 4) (What has a grip on you?)

B) Deliverance from War (v. 5)

(We go to bed at night, but do you know what goes on around the world? One day we will be free!!!)

IV. Promised Savior (v. 6)

A) Humanity of Christ (v. 6a)

B) Deity of Christ (v. 6b)

C) Authority Of Christ (v. 6c)

D) Identity of Christ (v. 6d – 7)

1) Wonderful Counselor

(Wonderful means marvelous or amazing.
Counselor refers to a guide.)

2) Mighty God (Mighty Warrior)

3) Eternal Father (

4) Prince of Peace

Conclusion