



New Living

Welcome!

We are glad to have you with us today and want you to feel comfortable as we enter into worship.

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Please come back and be with us anytime you have the opportunity!

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LIGHT IN A DARK WORLD

During the days of Isaiah, the prophet warned of an upcoming time of judgment. God's people would be punished for their embracing of idols and unspeakable wickedness. In Isaiah 7:18, Isaiah speaks of God *whistling for the fly that is in the remotest part of the rivers of Egypt and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria*. The fly and the bee represent the armies of these two nations, which would be used to overtake and punish God's people for their transgressions. The number of men in the army of Egypt was as numerous as flies, and the bee represents the myriad of Assyrian warriors whose comprehensive training enabled them to be constantly ready for war.

Biblical history shows that the prophecy of Isaiah came true. Both the Egyptian and Assyrian armies inflicted great harm upon God's people in the decades following Isaiah. Isaiah describes their coming as a time when the Lord would *shave with a razor the head and the hair of the legs; and it will remove the beard*, Isaiah 7:20. God's people would be as a person stripped of their garments, ready to be shaved from head to toe. Great shame was going to be heaped upon them. Judah would be completely emptied of its wealth, stature, people, and existence.

The awful darkness that is described in Isaiah 7 and 8 is contrasted when studying chapter 9. The prophet looks forward to a future time when God would make the land *glorious, 9:1. The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them, 9:2*. What would be the reason for such optimism? The answer is found in 9:4-6.

- *Burdens and bondage would be lifted from them, 9:4*. There would be a time when the followers of God would be delivered from the bondage of sin and the yoke of the Law. While on earth, Jesus invites us to Him, *Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, ...for My yoke is easy and My burden is light*, Matthew 11:28-30. Paul wrote, *it was for freedom that Christ set us free*, Galatians 5:1.
- *A new, spiritual kingdom was coming, 9:5*. Physical fighting and wars would no longer be necessary for the advancement of God's kingdom, because it is spiritual in nature. This message is also seen in Isaiah 2:2-4 and Hosea 2:18.
- *A Child would be born, given to mankind by the Lord, 9:6*. This Child, Jesus, would bring salvation to His people. This salvation would not be available only to Jews, but to all who would come to Him.

Isaiah 9:6 contains four descriptions of the Son of God. All of these descriptions are given by God, and describe the character of Jesus. He is first described as *Wonderful*

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Counselor. Jesus is wonderful in the sense of His power. Homer Hailey once wrote that Jesus is *the full revelation of the Father, ...mighty over Satan and sin, His mission is one of redemption and an expression of infinite love*, (Hailey comments on Isaiah, p. 102). As the *Wonderful Counselor*, Jesus possesses *all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*, Colossians 2:2b-3.

Jesus is described as *Mighty God*. Jesus is deity, and therefore equal with God. Just as God has all power and authority, so does Jesus. There are a number of passages that refer to Jesus as God. One notable New Testament passage that does so is Titus 2:13.

Jesus is also called *Eternal Father*. This stresses the eternal nature of the Son. He is not a created being. He was present at creation. Paul writes, *For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together*, Colossians 1:16-17. As our *Eternal Father*, Jesus is also our *Protector*. He guards us, holds us, and helps us as we go throughout life.

Finally, Jesus is called the *Prince of Peace*. Because He takes away our sin, He brings us peace through the reestablishment of a relationship with God. Micah would prophecy that Jesus is “our peace”, Micah 5:5. Paul would echo this in Ephesians 2:14-17 where he teaches that Jesus brought peace between nations uniting them together through His blood and a new relationship with God.

Jesus truly brought light into our dark world. God sent His only Son so that we could be delivered from the dread of darkness and gloom that comes with knowledge of being punished for sin. *God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ...Light has come into the world...he who practices the truth comes into the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God*, John 3:17-21. Are you walking in the light?

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Pray Without Ceasing

a devotional series presented by the Brownsburg Church of Christ

Join us at
 our
 services in
 June as
 we study
 how God
 teaches us
 to use
 prayer
 effectively.

Sunday June 7, 2009

10:30am • Prayer & Tough Decisions
 5:00pm • Prayer & Temptation

Sunday June 14, 2009

10:30am • Praying For Those We Dislike
 5:00pm • Forgiveness & Prayer

Sunday June 21, 2009

10:30am • Remember Those Who Are An Example
 5:00pm • God Will Help You Through

Sunday June 28, 2009

10:30am • God Is Abundant In Mercy

Brownsburg Church of Christ

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 Service times: Sunday: Bible Study-9:30am Worship-10:30am & 5:00pm • Wednesday: 7:00pm