

ADVENT: Hope

Andy Deane · 12/01/2024 · Isaiah 9:2-7

Advent Series Themes: Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love

Biblical hope for today's problems is rooted in God's presence with us today and His promises for the future.

Isaiah 9:2, The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Hope Breaks Through the Darkness

- The *great light* is a promise of God's future intervention. Light brings hope because our path forward is revealed!
- The hope for Judah was not: their trial would not happen, or that it would be shortened, or less painful, but that it wasn't the end of their story. That God was not done with them.

Isaiah 9:3-5, 3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. 4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. 5 Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Hope Reveals the Blessings Ahead

- There is hope for a future of joy: *rejoice at the harvest* ([Psalm 30:5](#))
- There is hope for a future of freedom: *shattered the yoke* ([John 8:34](#))

Isaiah 9:6, For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Hope is Found in Jesus, Here and Now

- Jesus has the light ([John 8:12](#)), joy ([John 15:11](#)), freedom ([Galatians 5:1](#)) and victory ([Romans 8:37](#)) we need.
- There's hope because our Messiah is man: *a child is born*
 - He knows our lack: [Philippians 2:7](#); [Matthew 8:20](#)
 - He knows our temptations: [Hebrews 4:15-16](#)
 - He knows our suffering: [Isaiah 53:3-4](#)
- There's hope because our Messiah is God: *a son is given*
 - [John 1:29](#); // [Hebrews 7:26-27](#); // [Hebrews 9:14](#)
- There's hope because our Messiah is who we need today:
 - [Wonderful Counselor](#): Jesus brings wisdom and guidance
 - [Mighty God](#): He is powerful to save & sovereign over all
 - [Everlasting Father](#): He cares for us with unending love
 - [Prince of Peace](#): Jesus brings peace with God to us

Isaiah 9:7, Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Hope is Fulfilled in Jesus, Forever

- Imagine a world where broken relationships are healed, where injustices are made right, and where peace replaces every fear. That's not just wishful thinking—it's the reality Jesus is preparing for us.
- Our hope for that is anchored in God's faithfulness: *The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*
- God will do that that perfectly & actually one day, but His zeal in us can accomplish this partially & meaningfully.
- The promise of hope in [Isaiah 9:2-7](#), for us, has arrived at Jesus' birth, so we don't wait for it—we have it, but advent is about waiting for something else too, His second coming, where our hope for justice & righteousness becomes perfect reality.

This Christmas season: (1) Anchor your hope in Jesus. (2) Spread hope to others. (3) Anticipate His return.