

LIGHT BREAKS INTO OUR DARKNESS

December 22, 2013 Isaiah 8:19-9:7 by Bob Branch

MAIN IDEA: God sent his son from heaven as the king who will bring an end to the darkness and gloom that characterizes and hounds the human race. The baby in the manger is God's answer.

"When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰ Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. ²¹ Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. ²² Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

¹ Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—**Isaiah 8:19–9:1**

1. People will look to **EVERYTHING BUT GOD**, but get aggravated with Him nonetheless.
2. The **RESULT** of not seeking and finding God is distress & hunger, being directionless and famished, in deep darkness and gloom.

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

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. **Isaiah 9:2-5**

3. God is going to do something to that will bring **LIGHT**, **JOY**, and **FREEDOM**.

Light

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **John 8:12**

Joy

"I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them." **John 17:13**

Freedom (Judges 7)

Warring ways cease

"Man's anger does not accomplish the righteousness God desires." **James 1:20**

- 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.
- 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. **Isaiah 9:6-7**

4. God will take the **INITIATIVE**, sending his son, a new king and kingdom.

"You see, at just the right time, when *we were still powerless*, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While *we were still sinners*, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:6-8**

5. He invites and draws us **TO THIS SON**, this Jesus... and his reign.

His reign will be ***wise***. Truth. Direction. Purpose.
(1 Cor. 1:21-24; Prov. 9:10)

His reign will be ***powerful***. Freedom. Healing. Resource.
(Luke 6:19; 1 Cor. 1:24)

His reign will be ***family***. Adoption. Included. Inheritance.
(1 John 3:1; Rom. 8:15)

His reign will bring ***shalom***. Completeness. Peace. Well-being.
(John 14:27; 16:33)