

KESSID SERMON NOTES



Sermon
"Hopefully Expectant"

Date
12-2-18

Speaker
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Question: What is it that Christmas is meant to accomplish?

Let's look at the time of Christmas before Christ...

- For many centuries the birth of the Messiah was something to hope for.
- A man by the name of Isaiah lived in the 7th century before Christ.
- He lived during a very difficult time; a time filled with desperation!
- At this point Israel has been spilt into two parts: The North and the South
- Isaiah lived and served in the Southern Kingdom in the City of Israel. He was a counselor and a prophet. but he was also "Hopefully Expectant."

Isaiah's name meant "God is Salvation."

- One day he came before the people and said... (Vs) *Isaiah 9:6,7* – "For a Child will be born to us..."
- *This is both a prophecy and a proclamation of... HOPE!*
- **Let's look closely** at the specific ways he expected this Hope to reveal itself?

The Arrival of this Hope would atone for Sin and overcome Death.

(Vs) *Isaiah 9:6a* – "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder..."

- Government – Refers to Empire
- Shoulder – Refers to Authority

From the Fall of Adam through the birth of Christ the world had existed in darkness and fear.

- Isaiah says one is coming whose Birth will signal the end of Darkness on Earth...

(Vs) Hebrews 2:14b,15 – "... that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery."

(Vs) Matthew 28:18 – And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

- Jesus has come to fulfill Isaiah's prophecy. He accomplished this...

The Arrival of Jesus would give man the fullest revelation of God in History.

- In Scripture your name was a statement about who you were and what you represented. Isaiah gives 4 names to the Christ to come.

(Vs) Isaiah 9:6b – "... and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

These 4 names reveal the way in which the Messiah would reveal his own Divine nature to man...

Wonderful Counselor

(Vs) John 16:29,30 – His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God."

Mighty God

(Vs) John 3:2 – This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

Everlasting Father

- Isn't it amazing that Isaiah refers to one who has yet to come as Father?
- He's proclaiming that He has always existed...

(Vs) John 14:8,9 – Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Prince of Peace

(Vs) Luke 2:14 – "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

- We too often pull from this that Christ came to bring a great cease fire to our World.

(Vs) Matt 24:6a – “And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place...”

(Vs) Matt 10:34 – “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.”

Insight: “Jesus did not come to bring peace between man and man but between God and Man.”

“Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow.” – A.W. Tozer

(Vs) John 16:33 – “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Until the Birth of Christ, the World did not know God like we know Him.

“Ultimately, Isaiah was foretelling of a time when God would be seen more clearly than even through the prophets themselves.”

From His Birth till now, anyone who wants to can come and...

- Hear the Wisdom of God – The “Wonderful Counselor”
- See the Works of God – The “Mighty God”
- Touch the Form of God – The “Eternal Father” in the Body of Christ
- Experience the blessing of Salvation – The “Prince of Peace” between God and Man

This is what those before us hoped for, and this is what we have now.

- The Birth of Christ celebrated as the Holiday we call Christmas

All stories in Scripture, and all journeys in this life lead to this place, and no other... People Hopefully Expectant.

- Are you desperate for a Hope that brings life?
- I invite you to celebrate that Hope has come!