

# FAMOUS Chapter 9

## Isaiah 9: Prophecy of Jesus

I entered the church for the first time with timid reservations. All the tradition and expectation from people scared me. I was not worthy. In time I became familiar with the church and its way. They said listen on Sunday. They said to read the Bible. Through time I have learned why they do what they do. Say what they say. One of those sayings comes from Isaiah 9. It astounds me that one obscure chapter in a very old book has one of the most famous set of verses in the Bible. Read Isaiah 9:6-7.

I am not one to ask you to just read two verses out of context. Yet, this is a confusing set of chapters for most readers. Isaiah is prophesying many things. Verse one of this chapter tells us something very important. He is reminding his readers of old knowledge. Then he says “but in the latter time.” Latter meaning in the future. How far in the future? That is the tricky part. Prophecy has been given by many people. Some of it has come true and plenty has not.

We love to fit prophecy to a certain event. Oh, how convenient. It’s the chicken and egg scenario. Was the prophecy correct or did we find something to fit it to? Here in Isaiah 9 we have him telling us of things that have passed. Then he mentions the latter or future. When Jesus came, he fits all the things mentioned in these verses. Convenient? It could be called blasphemy to say this prophecy is not talking about Jesus. I am not saying it isn’t, yet is it?

I was warned in school to not take verses out of context. So many have over the years. Isaiah chapters 8-10 paint a picture. A picture that appears to come to fruition in Jesus time period. I could say that chapter 8 fits John the Baptist. Chapter nine fits Jesus. I am by no means saying this is not intended

for Jesus and John. What I am saying is that we learn these verses. We quote these verses. Yet, much of the Bible is unread. The writer of Isaiah meant these verses for a certain period and reader. We just don't know the real intent. These verses are famous because we attach them to Jesus. Think it's uncanny how well they fit. Let's just be mindful of taking verses out of context when we have little to no context.

With that said, the people in Isaiah's day were oppressed. They were waiting for a promised savior. If you read the chapters before, things were going badly for Judah and Israel. These verses in Isaiah are telling history just as much as prophesy. There is a lot here to digest. Jesus is the savior. He did come as a peacemaker. Yet, he also came as a divider. Luke 12 has Jesus himself saying as much. Sometimes we paint Jesus as all those things in Isaiah 9 and forget the rest. Jesus will judge. Jesus will divide. People will be persecuted for their faith in Jesus.

These set of verses are prophesy. They are cool and controversial. They tell a story of who Jesus will be. Yet, they only tell one part. So often we try and paint God, Jesus the Son, and the Holy spirit in a box. They are this only. They are that only. Yet, God is infinite. That means he is many things to many people. To some a judge. To others a savior. There is more to Jesus than just Isaiah 9. Jesus is also a healer, teacher, and miracle worker.