

Finding the Messiah of Christmas

In this week before Christmas, let's reflect on and be encouraged by the Messiah of Christmas as we examine **the four names** Isaiah gave the coming Messiah.

● THE CONTEXT OF THE MESSIAH'S NAMES

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 Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. . . .⁶For 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.⁷Of the increase 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 9:1-2, 6-7 (New International Version)

God's ultimate purpose: A plan to bring **God's rule** to every corner of the earth, including "Galilee of the Gentiles."

"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever." 2 Samuel 7:16 (NIV)

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." Luke 1:32-33 (NIV)

● THE FOUR NAMES GIVEN TO JESUS, THE MESSIAH

○ Name #1: **WONDERFUL COUNSELOR**

In Jesus' earthly ministry, He offered more insightful, more penetrating wisdom, **more counsel** than the world had ever heard before.
(See Matthew 13:54)

But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
John 16:7 (NIV)

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
John 14:26 (NIV)

Counselor = *Paraclete* = para (**alongside**) and kletos (**to call**)

○ Name #2: **MIGHTY GOD**

In Jesus earthly ministry, He demonstrated His mighty power through **miracles**.

These miracles and the final miracle of resurrection proved His **divinity**.
(See John 20:28)

○ Name #3: **EVERLASTING FATHER**

(See Matthew 6:9ff)

"Father wound" = what happens in a person's heart when his earthly father doesn't provide what is needed

God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Hebrews 13:5b (NIV)
(See Galatians 4:6 and Romans 8:15)

○ Name #4: **PRINCE OF PEACE**

How Peace Comes

□ The Messiah makes peace **with** God possible.

So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.
Romans 5:11 (New Living Translation)

□ That leads to the peace **of** God in our hearts. (See John 14:27)

□ Which leads to peace **with others**. (See Ephesians 4:3)

There is no peace of God and little peace with others until and unless there is **peace with God**.