God Born Among Us

Isaiah 8:19 - 9:7

Isaiah 8:19-22 describes the fate of those who ignore God. When times get tough and they face the ultimate issues of life, they will know only distress, despair, and darkness.

But what a contrast in the verses that follow, Isaiah 9:1-5! Isaiah strains to adequately communicate wonderful, unbelievable blessings that will come to the neediest of God's people - blessings that are far beyond their experience and imagination. These blessings will be like:

- A Great Light where there had been only gloom and darkness (vv.1-2)
- A gladness and joy as at a bountiful harvest, or as when they receive a financial windfall (v.3)
- A sense of complete freedom as when we've finally been released from a long and difficult oppression (v.4)
- A deep and permanent peace as when war has ended forever (v.5)

What will bring these indescribable, unimaginable blessings? The birth of a child - a child who will become a great, eternal, magnificent, and righteous King.

In the Bible, names often signify who a person truly is - that person's character, purpose, and importance. A name is more than a label for someone. It is the person's identity. And if names could describe this magnificent King, what would His names be?

- Wonder of a Counselor
- God of Might
- Father of Eternity
- Prince of Peace

He will rule forever with perfect justice and righteousness. He and His decisions will always be just and right as God Himself is just and right. The peace, harmony, and complete well-being of His Kingdom will grow and grow forever.

How can we be sure that these incredible promises will actually be fulfilled? Because the burning, unquenchable love of the Unchanging God, I AM WHO I AM, Lord of All the Heavenly Armies, guarantees it!

Listen & Sing: <u>Isaiah 9</u> (from <u>LNWhymns.com</u>)

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