



WEEK 5

The Promised Messiah, Honor of the Nations

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹Nevertheless, 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—

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

*³You 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.*

*⁴For 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.*

*⁵Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.*

*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.
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.*

Introduction: Light for the World, Honor for the Nations

Isaiah's prophecy begins with a powerful image:

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” (Isaiah 9:2)

This light is not just for Israel. It is a light that shines into every nation, every culture, every corner of the earth. It is the light of the Messiah—Jesus Christ—who is not only the hope of Israel, but the **honor of the nations**.

From Darkness to Glory

Isaiah speaks to a people in chaos and despair. The darkness he describes is both external and internal:

- The chaos of war and oppression
- The emptiness of sin and separation
- The shadow of death that looms over all humanity

But into that darkness, a light dawns. And that light is a person:

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given...” (v. 6)

This child is not just a king for one people—He is the King of kings. His reign brings peace, justice, and righteousness. And His name is honored among the nations.



The Messiah: Crowned with Glory, Honored by the World

Isaiah gives Him four titles:

- **Wonderful Counselor** – the wisdom of God for all people
- **Mighty God** – the power of God over all nations
- **Everlasting Father** – the protection of God for every generation
- **Prince of Peace** – the peace of God that transcends borders

“Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.” (v. 7)

This is the Messiah who reigns not just in Jerusalem, but to the ends of the earth. His name is honored in every language. His glory is proclaimed in every land. He is the desire of the nations, the joy of the peoples, the honor of the world.

The Cross and the Crown: The Path to Glory

But how does this Messiah bring honor to the nations? Not through conquest, but through sacrifice.

Isaiah 53 reminds us:

“He was pierced for our transgressions... the punishment that brought us peace was on him.” (Isaiah 53:5)

The honor of the nations is not found in their strength, but in their Savior. Jesus is honored because He gave His life for the world. He bore our shame so we could share in His glory.

To the Ends of the Earth: A Global Reign of Peace

Isaiah’s vision is global:

- The light shines on all people.
- The joy is shared by all nations.
- The reign of Christ extends to the ends of the earth.

This is why we celebrate. This is why we go. This is why we proclaim the gospel—to bring honor to the name of Jesus in every nation, tribe, and tongue.



Conclusion: Come, Honor the King

As we come to the Lord's table, we remember that the cradle and the cross are inseparable. The child born in Bethlehem is the King who reigns forever. And He is worthy of honor—not just from us, but from all nations.

“The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.” (Isaiah 9:7)

So come. Come with your faith, your doubts, your hopes, your fears. Come and honor the King. Come and receive the light of the world. Come and proclaim His name—to the ends of the earth.