

## Isaiah Lesson 7 Articles

Isaiah and his wife had another son, named Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz. The name means “quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil,” and points to the impending judgment on Israel. Within months Syria and Israel were crushed, their capitals plundered, and their people deported. The armies of Assyria flowed over the borders of Judah to flood that nation, rising swiftly from feet to knees to waist and shoulders, right up to the very head itself, Jerusalem. The waters would recede, but Judah was left a disaster (vv. 6–10).

The people of God needed to forget their fear of men, of Rezin and Pekah who terrorized Ahaz but who soon were to die, and to fear God who judges iniquity. Isaiah cried out:

The Lord Almighty is the One you are to regard as holy, He is the One you are to fear, He is the One you are to dread. **Isaiah 8:13**

He would be a sanctuary to any who would turn to Him, but if Judah refused to return, the God they spurned would bring about their brokenness. Yet instead of turning to God, the people turned to mediums and spiritualists, to consult the dead on behalf of the living (vv. 11–22).

In spite of the coming disaster, God’s intention to bless His people and bring them holiness had not been changed. One day the Promised Child would be born. One day the Promised Son would be given. He, whose names are Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, will reign on the Davidic throne over a cleansed world.

Of 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 9:7**

On the throne where Ahaz, that unworthy descendant of David now sat, another King will reign. He will establish the righteousness and the justice that every act of Ahaz denied. And of His kingdom there will be no end.

Yet before the final kingdom comes, much history will intervene. The course of history, as well as its appointed end, is fixed by the Sovereign Lord. Israel and its capital Samaria would be destroyed by her enemies.

Yet for all this, His anger is not turned away, His hand is still upraised. **Isaiah 9:12**

The elders and the prominent men who led Israel into sin, and the prophets who lied for them, would be killed.<sup>1</sup>

In 9:1–7 Isaiah gives a second prediction of the coming Messiah; see Matt. 4:13–16. The areas mentioned in 9:1 suffered the most when Assyria swept over Israel, but they would be the ones to see the light of Messiah. In vv. 3–5, the prophet looks down the years to the time when Israel would rejoice, when burdens would be lifted, when the weapons of warfare would be burned as fuel—the time when Jesus Christ would reign as Prince of Peace. See here the humanity of Christ (“a Child is born”) and the deity of Christ (“a Son is given”). Then the prophet jumps from His humble birth to His glorious reign, when He shall rule from Jerusalem and there shall be perfect peace.<sup>2</sup>

† **9:2** — Jesus grew up in Nazareth of Galilee, where many gentiles lived. His parents learned that He would be “a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles” (Luke 2:32), and He called Himself “the light of the world” (John 8:12).

† **9:13** — God spent many years warning Israel to turn from her wicked ways before He finally sent the Assyrians to destroy the nation and carry her people into captivity. He uses adversity to turn us to Him, not to destroy us<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Richards, L., & Richards, L. O. (1987). *The teacher’s commentary* (p. 374). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

<sup>2</sup> Wiersbe, W. W. (1993). *Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the Old Testament* (Is 7:17–10:34). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

<sup>3</sup> Stanley, C. F. (2005). *The Charles F. Stanley life principles Bible: New King James Version* (Is 9:2–13). Nashville, TN: Nelson Bibles.