Isaiah: A Prophet for Our Time
The Reign of a Righteous King
Isaiah 9:1-7

At creation, God established the family as the most basic and fundamental social unit in society. Through the family, men and women would be fruitful and multiply and care for and consume the world that God had gifted them. At the fall, and specifically after the flood, God ordained government to establish order and the congregation or church to announce the gospel, the possibility of renewal, the certainty of resurrection, and the coming kingdom.

1. Light will shine in the darkness.

2. God will defeat the enemy.

3. A Son will rule with perfect justice.

The kingdom was inaugurated the moment Christ came to earth. It is available to everyone who believes that Jesus is Lord. Citizenship comes to those who place their trust in the finished work of Christ and His cross. When all who will be saved are saved, our King will return and establish once and for all a light that makes darkness an impossibility. He will establish a kingdom that will never end. God's zeal for the glory of His Son will make everything new, and no power in heaven or earth or under the earth can stop it.

Reflection

Take some time to consider in detail each of the titles given to this righteous King? What is the significance of each? For instance, what does it mean for you to have placed your trust in a wonderful Counselor? How does Almighty God reinforce the deity of this son/child of verse 6? We tend to think of Jesus in terms of peace, but how does the New Testament reinforce the conquering aspects of His current and future rule and reign? (Hint: read passages like Colossians 2:15, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, Matthew 10:34-39.) Then again, how does the New Testament affirm the peace the comes from knowing Christ? Consider passages such as Romans 5:1 and Philippians 4:6-7. What does verse 7 teach us about the nature of Jesus' kingdom? What are the theological implications of the phrase "zeal of the Lord," and what does this phrase tell you about God's nature and character?