

A LIGHT HAS DAWNED
Isaiah 9.1-7, Matthew 4.12-17

Isaiah prophesies that the rebellion of the nation Judah against God will lead to the doom and gloom of war and exile. However, chapter 9 points to a new beginning. Isaiah tells the people that a new day is coming when there will be no more war and God’s people are led by an ideal ruler, a Messiah, who is the true light. The Gospel writer Matthew uses these words from Isaiah to show his readers that Jesus is the fulfillment of that prophecy.

The Living in Darkness

Isaiah’s words of hope: *Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress.* v 9.1

A Light has Dawned (v 9.6)

For 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.

v 9.7 *The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*

(i.e., For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3.16)

Matthew’s story of Jesus the Messiah: Jesus comes to live among us and our darkness (Matthew 4.12-16)

Jesus’ invitation

*From that time on Jesus began to preach, “**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven **has come near.**”* Matthew 4.17



What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?