The Coming King (1)
Hope Has Come
Isaiah 9:1–7 (NKJV)

Big Idea: Jesus is the promised light to all nations.

Introduction: Today we begin our Advent series that I am calling The Coming King. *For the next several weeks*, we are going to prepare our hearts for Christmas by looking at the promises God made concerning the King who was coming. And this morning we begin with one of the greatest Christmas prophecies in all the Bible: Isaiah chapter 9.
Isaiah did not first speak those words into the glow of Christmas candles. He spoke them into darkness.

I. The <u>place</u> of darkness: (vv. 1–2)

A. The darkness was painful. (v.1)
Historical background: 2 Kings 15:29 These were not people who needed a motivational slogan. They needed hope!

B. The darkness was penetrating. (v. 2) (*Ps. 119:105)*
They didn't merely pass through a dark afternoon. They were living there.

***C.* The darkness was not permanent.** (v. 2) (*Jn 1:5; Mt. 4:12–16)*

1. Isaiah speaks with such confidence about God's promised action that the coming light is announced as though it has already broken upon them
2. Matthew later identifies the decisive fulfillment of this light with Jesus' arrival and ministry in Galilee.

II. The <u>promise</u> of deliverance: (vv. 3–5)

A. There is rejoicing. (v.3) *Isaiah describes joy like the joy of harvest.*

***B.* There is release.** (v. 4) (*Judges 7 (Gideon and Midian); Mt. 1:21)*
The central image is liberation from oppressive domination.

***C.* There is rest.** (vv. 5, 7) (*Phil 2:10–11)*
Isaiah's vision is moving toward an end of oppression and toward the peaceful reign of God's promised king.

III. The <u>person</u> of hope: (v. 6)
Hope is not merely a principle. - Hope is not merely an idea. - Hope is a Person.

A. His humanity is real. (v. 6) (*Heb 4:15)* The New Testament presents Jesus as truly human, born of a woman and sharing in flesh and blood,…

B. His deity is revealed. — (v. 6) These royal titles have staggering scope. *Wonderful Counselor • Mighty God • Everlasting Father • Prince of Peace Before Jesus brings peace to the world, He offers peace with God to the sinner. (Rom 5:1)*

***C.* His authority is rightful.** (v. 6) *"The government will be upon His shoulder."* We should care about our world…but he kingdom of God is not resting on our shoulders. It rests on His.

IV. The <u>permanence</u> of His Kingdom: (v. 7

A. His reign is endless. (v. 7) Every kingdom built by human hands will pass – His will have NO end.

B. His reign is righteous. (v. 7) Not merely endless government, but endless righteous government.

C. His reign is guaranteed. (v. 7) "The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

V. The <u>purpose</u> for the nations: (vv. 1–2; Mt. 4:12–17)

A. The Light came to unlikely places. Galilee Jerusalem or the religious center of Israel.

***B.* The Light came for all peoples.** (Isa 9:1–2; *Mt. 28:19–20) The child was given for a world in darkness.*

a. **C. The Light calls for a response.** (Mt 4:17; *Jn 8:12)* The invitation is: Turn from your sin and trust the King who came to save you.

Conclusion — Hope Has Come
Three questions for this week:

1. Where am I sitting in darkness?
2. Where do I need to trust the Light?
3. Who around me needs to see the Light?

Remember: Hope has come—not because our circumstances suddenly changed, but because **Jesus has come.**

Jesus is the promised light to all nations. *Because the Light has come, the darkness does not get the final word.*