



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Considering Christ this Christmas... By Gareth

READ ISAIAH 9:6 (NKJV)

- *“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*
- *“The government will be upon His shoulder...”* This implies that the government, or authority will rest on Him. He shall rule. The government shall be vested in Him. He shall be a king. He will reign over all. His authority trumps all other authority.
- When you think of the Child being “given” to us, and that His authority trumps all other, it gives you a sense of security, hope, and expectation because Jesus fights our battles and intercedes for us. The One who has all authority knows you inside and out. Not to condemn you, but to lift you up and win battles for you.
- *“And His name will be called...”*
 - *“Wonderful...”* His name, His attributes, who He is, and what He does, will be called “Wonderful.” It is separated from the ordinary. It is to excite amazement, wonder, and admiration, whether it be miraculous or not. wonderful in the dictionary means: “(adjective) inspiring delight, pleasure, or admiration; extremely good; marvelous.”
 - *“Counselor...”* expresses a distinct attribute, or quality. The name “counselor” here, is one of honorable rank; one who is suited to stand near princes and kings as their adviser. It is expressive of great wisdom, and of qualifications to guide and direct the human race. Jesus gives the best advise. He can bring about healing far better than any counselor on this earth. He can help us deal with any issue in our life and bring wholeness and completion. Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor!
 - *“Mighty God...”* Or God the mighty One. He is God the Son. Christ is God. Jesus is not a god who has no strength, no, He is a god who has all the power and might to deliver and rescue us from anything in this life. He is all powerful. There is no weakness in Him. There is nothing that is impossible with Him. He doesn't know or ever experience defeat. He is the only true God, all other “gods” are not real and have no power. He and the Father are one. Mighty God refers to and implies both the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
 - *“Everlasting Father...”* How can Jesus be the Father and the Son? We have to remember that the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are separate and yet all One God. There is but one Father in the Godhead, and that is the first Person; Christ and the Father are one, and the Father is in him, and he is in the Father, and he that has seen the one has seen the other. *John 14:9 (NIV).* *“Jesus answered: ‘Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”*

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WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Issue 52

Taking the word “Everlasting” and applying it to the word “Father” makes this name for Jesus even

- *“Prince of peace...”* Jesus is the Prince among princes. He is supreme.
saying; *“Peace be still.”* Mark 4:37 - 41 (NKJV)

Events /Notices

Sunday 31st

Wednesday 3rd January

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise



▶ Sunday School



Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).

▶ Tea and Coffee



Hebrews 13:2