

THE PROMISED HOPE Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 53:5

December 24, 2023 Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning Church! Christmas is the fulfillment of hundreds of years of prophetic predictions about the coming of the Messiah who would change the world. God's people waited for a Savior who would come to rescue and restore a broken creation. They held onto hope that God would stay true to his promise. Prophets in the Old Testament wrote about a future day when God would send a savior to His people. He would make a way for all things to be healed from the devastating effects of sin.

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." **Isaiah 7:14**

Isaiah 7:10-17

"Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: 11 "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." 12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." 13 And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

15 He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. 17 The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!"

1. The <u>SIGNS</u> of God Give Us <u>HOPE</u>. (Isaiah 7:14)

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." **Isaiah 9:6**

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord." **Isaiah 11:1-2**

2. God WITH US Is The Hope We NEED.

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8**

3. Jesus' **SACRIFICE** Gives Us **HOPE**. (Isaiah 53:5)

"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."

Isaiah 53:5

I heard someone once say that if Christmas is the promise, then Easter is the proof. That is a good word. We celebrate Christmas because we have been given the awesome privilege of offering the hope that we have found in Christ to others. What better season to do this in than Christmas.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness. Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.