

## THE GLORY OF THE MANGER

Isaiah 9:6,7

Beloved of the Lord:

"There is that both in the life and death of Christ which God alone can comprehend. Our part is to stand with unshod feet and adoring hearts, as we gaze on this 'Great Mystery', God manifested in the flesh, not attempting to define what is indefinable, or comprehend what is incomprehensible to creature minds" --E. Cross

Let us meditate and worship as we consider the prophetic glories the Isaiah writes of the One Who was "the child born" and "the Son given", in the manger at Bethlehem. The glories of His Person and His names.

1. WONDERFUL -- "His name shall be called WONDERFUL" - Compare Judges 13:18 (R.V. & A.V. margin) Beyond human comprehension; to Manoah "the angel of the Lord said, (Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is SECRET." Who can know it?
2. COUNSELOR -- These first two titles are not to be combined into one phrase as if the first was an adjective describing the Counselor as wonderful; each is a noun. Contrast Isa. 28:29, where each is different. In the glory of His future Kingdom, the Babe in the manger will be "wonderful in counsel and excellent in working."
3. THE MIGHTY GOD -- This Babe in the manger, none other than "the mighty God!" Once ancient writer translated this "the mighty hero" in order to get rid of "God". The efforts of Jews and Rationalists seek to deny this is the Messiah, truly "God manifest in the flesh." It can not be done.
4. THE EVERLASTING FATHER -- Literally -- "Father of eternity." Consider prayerfully that this same Babe will bring in a NEW ETERNITY. When all the redemptive purposes of God are accomplished by Him, New Heavens and a new earth will appear, a new eternity. Time shall be no more. Read Rev. 21:1-5.
5. PRINCE OF PEACE -- He is a Prince Who will subdue every opposing foe. He will banish every disturbing element and thus bring peace to His people and the nations. This the angels heralded at His birth -- Luke 2:14. To the extension of His government there will be no limit, and to peace no end!

There are two things for each one of us to do, as did the wisemen:

1. WORSHIP -- "They fell down and worshipped Him."
2. SERVICE -- "They presented unto him gifts."

Their worship was given before service. So should we do the same.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

