**TO US A CHILD IS BORN**

Isaiah 9:1-7 (Key Verse: 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.*

1. Why were the people of Zebulun and Naphtali in distress? (1a; Isa 8:5-8, 19-22) Why do you think Isaiah referred to ‘people walking in darkness’ and those ‘living in the land of the shadow of death?’ (2) Nevertheless, what would happen in the future and what will they see? (1b-2)?
2. Who is this “great light” (2; Mt 4:12-17[[1]](#footnote-1))? What joy would He bring people? (3) Who was their oppressor and what did God do for them (4; Judge 7:19-25) What does it imply that ‘every warrior’s boot’ and ‘every garment’ would be fuel for the fire (5)?
3. How would all these blessings be given to us (6a)? Who is the child? (Mt 1:21[[2]](#footnote-2)) What did it mean that the government would be on his shoulder? What is his name (6b)?
4. What would happen to his government and peace (7a)? What character does his kingdom have (7b)? How can we be certain all this was accomplished (7c)?

1. **Mt 4:12-17** When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Mat 1:21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, f because he will save his people from their sins.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)