A WONDERFUL SAVIOR
Text: Isaiah 9:6

INTRO: About 730 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied of Him, and described Him as wonderful. For the next few minutes, I invite you think with me about some of the things that make Jesus a wonderful savior.

I. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN HIS BIRTH.
   A. He was born without a human father.
      READ LUKE 1:26-35
   B. The prophet Isaiah had foretold the virgin birth 730 years before it occurred, Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23.
   C. Another prophet, Micah, who was contemporary with Isaiah, foretold the place where Christ was to be born, Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:6.
   D. Luke records how an edict of the Roman government caused Mary to in the right place when it came time for Jesus to be born, LUKE 2:1-7.
   E. Luke also records that heavenly angels appeared and praised God at the time Jesus was born, LUKE 2:8-14.

II. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN THE LIFE THAT HE LIVED.
   A. He went about doing good, Acts 10:38.
   B. He always did that which pleased the heavenly Father, John 8:29.
   C. He faced every category of temptation without giving in to sin, Hebrews 4:15.

III. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN HIS LOVE.
   B. Its selflessness, Romans 5:8.
   C. Its preeminence, 1 John 4:19.

IV. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN POWER AND AUTHORITY.
A. While He was on earth, He exercised power over sickness, disease & death; over winds & waves & evil spirits. He miraculously multiplied the loaves & fishes, and He withered the fruitless fig tree. He walked on water.

B. As He was about to depart the earth, He informed His apostles that all power & authority rested in Him, Matthew 28:18-10.

C. Many of these matters had been foretold by Moses & the prophets. Isa. 29:18-19; 42:6-7; 61:1-2, etc.

Deut. 18:15, 18-19

V. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN HIS DEATH.
A. It was voluntary, John 10:18; Matthew 26:53.
B. It was vicarious, John 10:11, 15
C. His sacrificial death was foretold by O.T. prophets, Isaiah 53; Psalm 22.

VI. HE WAS WONDERFUL IN HIS RESURRECTION.
A. Others have been revived from death by Elijah, Elisha, by Jesus, Peter, and by Paul. But no one else was ever raised by his own power, JN 10:18.

B. And no one before had ever been raised to die no more.] Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. (Rom. 6:9).

C. He has become the firstfruits, the proof, that all will eventually be raised by Him, 1Corinthians 15:20-22.

D. This, too, was foretold by the O.T. prophets. For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. (Psalm 16:10)

It pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days... (Isaiah 53:10).
VII. HE IS WONDERFUL IN HIS INTERCESSION.
   A.Unlike the O.T. priests who lived a little while and died and had to be replaced. He always lives to make intercession, Hebrews 7:25.

   B. Unlike the O.T. priest, who first had to atone for his own sins (Heb. 5:3; 9:7), Jesus had no sins for which to atone, Hebrews 4:15.

   C. And unlike the O.T. sacrificial system with its animal blood which could never take away sins (Heb. 10:4), the blood of Jesus makes full forgiveness an ever present reality.

   D. He knows our hearts and He knows our needs, and He lives forever to intercede for us, Romans 8:26-27.

IX. HE WILL BE WONDERFUL IN HIS RETURN.
   A. He will raise the dead, both the just & the unjust. John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15.

   B. He will change the living from corruptible to incorruptible, from mortal to immortal, 1 Corinthians 15:53-54.

   C. He will reveal all secrets and correct all the inequalities of life, Romans 2:16.

   D. He will welcome into heaven those who have served Him and loved Him and prepared themselves for His coming, Matthew 25:34.

   E. And those who have never obeyed Him before, will obey Him when He says to them: "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).

CONCLUSION: In these, and many other matters, truly "a wonderful savior is Jesus, my Lord, a wonderful savior to me." My savior can be your savior, too.

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