

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.

A. Its magnitude, John 15:13.

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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