

Isaiah 9:1-5 - UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN.

1. (1-2) A great light.

The **gloom** carries over from [Isaiah 8](#), where Isaiah warned Judah about the coming invasion from Assyria, which would be terrible for the Jewish people, especially for the northern regions of the Promised Land, **the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali**.

[1 John 1:5](#) - *This **is** the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that **God is light** and in Him **is** no darkness at all.*

[John 8:12](#) - *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light** of **the** world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have **the light** of life."*

[John 9:5](#) - *"As long as **I am in the** world, **I am the light** of **the** world."*

[2 Corinthians 4:6](#) - *For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

2. (3-5) Joy (full of) and victory (complete).

- Joy

The ministry of the Messiah would bring joy and victory to Israel and the whole world. The joy that Jesus brings is likened to the celebration during harvest and battle victory, as was in Gideon's era.

[Deuteronomy 16:11](#) - *"You shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your gates, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are among you, at the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide.*

[Psalm 9:2](#) - *I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.*

[Psalm 20:5](#) - *We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.*

Men have pursued joy in every avenue imaginable. Some have successfully found it while others have not. Perhaps it would be easier to describe where joy cannot be found:

Not in Unbelief -- Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

Not in Pleasure -- Lord Byron lived a life of pleasure if anyone did. He wrote: "The worm, the canker, and grief are mine alone."

Not in Money -- Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying, he said: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Not in Position and Fame -- Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret."

Not in Military Glory -- Alexander the Great conquered the known world in his day. Having done so, he wept in his tent, before he said, "There are no more worlds to conquer."

Where then is real joy found? -- the answer is simple, in Christ alone.

Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

As a man was anticipating death, he penned these last words to a friend: "It's a bad world, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered in the midst of it a quiet and holy people who have learned a great secret. They have found a joy which is a thousand times better than any pleasure of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They are masters of their souls. They have overcome the world. These people are the Christians--and I am one of them."

- **Victory**

Psalms 98:1 - Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the **victory**.

1John 5:4 - For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the **victory** that has overcome the world—our faith.

1 Corinthians 15:55 - "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

Revelation 15:2 - And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the **victory** over the beast, over his image and over his mark[fn] and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.