## "A Light Has Dawned" Isaiah 9:2-7

1. The prophet Isaiah talks about a people who were walking in darkness and in the shadow of death. But they will see a great light...a light that has dawned. How were things dark in Isaiah's time? In what ways are things dark now?

How does Jesus bring light? In what ways does light benefit us, and how does this imagery relate to Jesus?

2. We read in verse 3 that the light will increase their gladness or joy (v. 3). "Joy" is mentioned more than two dozen times in the book of Isaiah. In verse 3, what is their experience of joy compared to?

How should joy characterize the life of a follower of Christ?

3. Read Isaiah 9:5. At that time, after the Child-Messiah will come, the implements of war will be done away with because Messiah's reign will be one of universal peace.

Isaiah then records several things about the coming Messiah. What is the first thing we read about in the first part of verse 5?

Second, what will "rest upon His shoulders"? What does that mean?

Third, He will have four descriptive names that will reveal His character:

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- 4. How is Christ your Wonderful Counselor?
- 5. How is Messiah unlike any other person? How was He able to do what no other person had been able to do?
- 6. God is One even though He exists in three Persons. Therefore, the Messiah is God. What divine attributes do all 3 Persons share? How does Jesus take on a Fatherly role?
- 7. When you are facing trials and the storms of life, how does Christ serve as Your Prince of Peace?