

Isaiah 8:19 - 9:7

I. Days of darkness (19-22).

A. Inquiry of the occult (19).

1. The people were afraid.
2. Wanted to know what the future held (cf. 1 Sa. 28:6, 15).
3. Imitated the chirping of bats (from the shades of Hades).
4. Spoke in whispers.

B. Summons to God's word--a watchword (20a.)

C. Consequences of ignoring God's word (20b - 22).

1. No hope of spiritual dawning.
2. Abandonment in the Assyrian oppression.
3. Hatred.
 - a. Of man.
 - b. Of God.
4. Night of anguish.
5. Intensified evil (cf. Re. 9:20ff.).

II. Days of light (1-7).

A. Shame into honor (1).

1. Shame from the Assyrian captivity.
 - a. Contempt (cf. Ge. 12:3).
 - b. It is the LORD's work.
2. Honor in Christ's ministry (cf. Mt. 4:12-17).
 - a. Most of his ministry in Galilee.
 - b. The LORD's work.
3. The height of the glory compares to the depth of the shame.

B. The manifestation of glory (2-3).

1. Light (2).
 - a. Death has swept away the godless.
 - b. The remnant see the dawn (cf. v.20 *supra.*).
2. National prosperity (3).
 - a. Increase in numbers (cf. Ge. 12:2; 15:5).
 - b. Rejoicing.
 - i. Victorious.
 - ii. Triumphant.

C. Reasons for honor (4-7).

1. Oppression is broken (4).

a. Reference to Gideon (Ju. 6-7).

i. Similar harsh oppression (Ju. 6:2-6).

ii. Redeemed by a small, triumphant remnant.

b. Total destruction of the symbols of bondage.

2. Cessation of war (5).

a. The tread which shakes the earth.

i. Battle.

ii. Fearsome army.

b. Total destruction of the symbols of war.

3. A king is born (6-7; cf. 7:14).

a. Characteristics of God.

i. Wonder who gives counsel (cf. Ju. 13:18).

a) Beyond human comprehension.

b) Term never used of a human being.

ii. Mighty God.

a) Never used of a human being.

b) NWT falls on 10:21.

c) Corresponds to Immanuel (7:14).

iii. Eternal Father (Father of Eternity).

iv. Prince of Peace.

v. Clearly, God become man.

b. His reign (cf. 2 Sa. 7).

i. Universal rule of peace.

ii. Justice and righteousness.

D. Done by the zeal of the LORD.