

12-15-24 AM Sherl Thomas - And His Name Shall Be Called

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If you'd take a bonus to get it with me at home, I'd assume, where was it? Isaiah chapter 9. I about forgot. Isaiah chapter 9. And I wanted to tell this. Now, I've been teaching a Sunday School class downstairs, and I took the class that Sean was teaching.

And we've had a lot of young people who decided they wanted to be somewhere else and do something else. And I've been working trying to get that little class to grow and run us out of that room. And it just about has a time or two.

And now, these that was in the class this morning, you just ask them. They learned stuff that they would ever dream they'd learn. And I'm serious.

And I love teaching the Bible. And I've had a lot of experience in life. A lot of things I can share that relate to the Scripture.

So, if you can, you come and help us bust out of that little room and out into the fellowship hall and get that class going again. I've already took off the little sign outside the door. It used to say, under 30, it's not there anymore.

It's young adults, and it's adults who either think young or act young. And so, a person could accuse me of being immature at times, and that would be alright in a good way. In a good way.

So, you pray about that. You pray about that. Alright.

Isaiah in chapter 9, and of course, this is the time of year when we celebrate or we think about the birth of our Lord and Savior. And there is so much in the Bible, so much to inspire us and everything. Of course, this time of year wasn't even when Jesus was born.

That's been proven. And then there have been folks back past through the years that involved things in the Christmas celebration that are heathenistic and stuff like that. We hate that.

But the world is thinking that way. And so, we participate, and we think that way too. And so, I pray that the Lord help me to teach you something that will make you... I tell people all the time, come to church with a prayer.

Every person that knows the Lord should do that. Lord, teach me something today that I didn't know already. And inspire me to honor you and glorify you with my life.

You do that, and you pray that, and you pray it sincerely, and when you assemble together, and I promise you the Lord will bless that prayer because he desires to teach us. I asked the class this morning, I said, who inspired this book? Well, we know that the Holy Spirit inspired the writing of the scripture. Bible tells us that, that they were... they wrote as they were moved with

the Spirit.

And so, the Bible tells us that he's our teacher. We sing a song that says, Spirit of God, my teacher be, showing the things of Christ to me. And so, he's our teacher.

And I told him that, how it worked. I know from my own experience, when we read and study the Bible, and we're supposed to study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. And I said, what happens to us is that questions come to our mind.

I tell you what, I've gotten so anymore. I've read it, and studied it, and preached it, and taught it. I've been teaching the Bible for 50 years.

I can't hardly read the Bible. They just be one question right after another comes to my mind. You see, but you've done it that much.

You ought not have anything that you wonder about. Oh, but I do. That's how the Holy Spirit works in their life, is that he inspires us to wonder and want to know more of what the Bible teaches.

And so, we're going to look at a passage of scripture that will say something about Jesus coming into this world that will inspire us. I'm going to read from Isaiah chapter 9. If you're turned there, and we're ready to read, as God uses his word as we read it, as he sees fit. And here's what it says beginning in verse 1. Nevertheless, the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation.

Now, when we read that word nevertheless, we know for sure that it's connected to something that's already been talked about. And what's been talked about was that God permitted judgment to come on two of the sons of Jacob. They are mentioned here, Zebulon and Nephthali.

And that great judgment caused great serious things to happen to that area. And what it was, it was the attack of the Assyrians. And you can read about it if you want to study it later in the previous chapter and more.

And it talks about that it was a terrible, terrible thing. An Assyrian leader by the name of Tiglas Pleaser attacked Israel. And in the northern part, and it was awful, it was awful.

And that's what he's talking about when he says nevertheless, the dimness shall not be as it was in the vexation when the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulon and the land of Nephthali. Afterwards did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea beyond Jordan in Galilee of the nations. And so it affected when we were studying their Bible about Galilee and the minister of Christ, we know that this is what he's making reference to.

Then I want you to pay really close attention to verse number two. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death upon them

hath the light shine.

And I'm going to show you something when I get through reading through the text. If I don't stop preaching and start reading, I won't never get through it. But I'll show you something about that passage scripture.

You say is this a Messianic text? Absolutely. Was this talking about Jesus? Absolutely. It's talking about him coming to Galilee about what happened in that area when Jesus began his earthly ministry.

And most of his ministry was there in Galilee by the shore of the lake there and Capernaum and in that area he did most of his miracles and his ministry. And I'll share both more of that with you in a moment. And he says this, the vow has multiplied the nations increase the joy by joy before the according to the joy in the harvest as men rejoice when they divide the spoils.

In other words he's talking about rejoicing and joy that's going to happen. For thou has broken the yoke of his burden and the staff of his shoulder and the rot of the oppressor of his oppressor and in the day of Midian. And for every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and garments rolled in blood, but this shall be the burning and fuel of fire.

All of that's talking about that time when the Assyrians attacked and how that experience was. And then I want you to notice these two verses and we would just know if we didn't know any other way that this was a Messianic text. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, and of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, upon his kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth for even forever, and the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Now this is talking about Jesus coming into the world. This is talking about the birth of our Lord and Savior. When he says unto us a child is born and unto us a son is given, that's an awesome statement that's made.

And what he's talking about when Jesus was born, he was a child. He was a baby. He was born to Mary.

He was a baby. And you know, did you know that there's not anything in this world born that is more helpless and more dependent than a little baby? You know, I grew up on the farm and around farming stuff and all that. And I know all about animals when they give birth and all kinds of things like that.

And you know, they'll give birth and they hit the ground, jump right up on their feet, nurse and run and everything. You know, people are not like that. A child is a very helpless individual.

And so the Bible is telling us that when Jesus was born, he was born a baby. This is talking

about the humanity of Christ. You see, when Christ came into the world, there was a marriage of humanity and deity.

Jesus was fully human and fully God. I know that blows their mind to think about that, but he was. And so he was fully human like Adam and Eve before the fall.

That's what he was like because he was perfect. He wouldn't like any babies that are born after him that are not, you know, they're not. And I've told you how that they act and they start being little hypocrites and lying just as soon as they're born, they cry when nothing's wrong.

They not a tear in her eye. You see, they just naturally do that because they're born into sin. The Bible says they have that nature in them.

And so a son, a child is born. And so that teaches us something about how Christ came and the spirit when inspired these verse verses, that's the way he did it. And unto us, a child is born unto us.

A son is given. Why did he do that? Why did he say it that way? Because unto us, a son, that is the eternal son of God. You see, Jesus has always been.

He didn't start to exist when he was born in Bethlehem. He has always existed. Matter of fact, the Bible tells us in the book of Colossians, he created everything.

He was there in the book of Genesis when God said, let us make man. Who do you think us was? It was the three persons of the Godhead, the Trinity. They were all there.

They were all present. And so Jesus is the eternal son of God. He's always been fascinating to study in the Old Testament about the angel of the Lord.

I'd encourage you to get your concordance out and look all them up and read about them. You'll find that that angel, when you read about it, you say, wow, this was God. This was God.

And of course, I believe it to be the pre-incarnate Son of God. He was present in the Old Testament. And so, that's what that means.

Unto us, a child is born unto us, a son is given. Isn't that interesting? And then we find, and I want to, I mean to address all the titles that are given to Christ here in verse number six. And I discovered amazing thing about that when I read that passage and I began to think about it.

As a matter of fact, the title of the message this morning is, and his name shall be called. That's actually in our text, and his name shall be called. And you know, I never thought about that before, but as soon as I read that, this is the thought that came to my mind, and his name shall be called.

Wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. You say, who calls him that? We'd say, well, we don't hear that, we don't hear that called in our modern world that we

live in. Prince of Peace probably would be the closest to these titles that are given to Jesus.

But I'm going to tell you this morning who it is that calls him that. I know who it is that calls him that. And I want to tell you this morning, if you know Jesus in the free part of your sin, if you know him as Lord and Savior in your thoughts, in your minds, in your heart, you're calling him Wonderful Counselor, the mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

That's experiential identifying him. That's what people that are saved think about him. This is about his character.

And so he may not be called these things by the world around us, but we call him that in our hearts and in our minds. Isn't it good? We do. And I'll address more of that in just a moment.

But I wanted to share some things about verse number two, and about this being the Messianic passage of Scripture. And he says in verse two again, and the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. You know, when I read that, and I'm going to show you in a minute why I know this is a Messianic verse.

Messianic means, of course, passages of Scripture that are addressing our Savior. And I know what is the first thing I thought of when I read that is a song that I've sung over the years many times. And it's not in our songbook.

I didn't realize that till I looked. The light of the world is Jesus. Come to the light is shining for me.

Sweet thee, the light has dawned upon me. I got those words wrong, but I got the song right. Amen.

The light of the world. And you know what? This world, when Jesus came into the world, the world would never, ever be the same again. I've often thought what it would be like in the world that we live in.

Had Jesus not come when He did, I don't think there'd even be a world, just be honest with you. But this world was changed when Jesus came into this world. And you might be sitting in your pew this morning or in your home participating in the worship service.

You may be thinking, well, I know another application of that. Whenever God convicts a poor lost soul of his lost condition and his sin convicts him of his sin and brings him to repentance and faith in the Lord, the light shined in your heart. If you know the Lord.

Amen. It shined in mine 60 some years ago. And it just keep growing, shining brighter and brighter and brighter.

And I tell you what, if I live much longer, I'm going to throw a fit because it's just been something else in my own personal experience. The light that shines in our heart is Jesus. Amen.

And so He says, the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. Now that's talking about Zebulun and Iftala is what it's talking about. And that's the darkness that was there.

The Syrians had attacked and just done awful, awful damage in their life. And they walked in darkness and they, uh, it goes on to say dwell in the land of the shadow of death. Think about that.

I often think about the people who live in other parts of our world. You know, if you watch news programs and stuff on television, you see people the way they live their life in some of these countries all together different from the way we live our life all together different. I shared with the Sunday school class this morning, some of the things about the way I grew up.

I grew up, my family would pour us all get out and I had no idea. None until I was about 10 years old. And up until that point in time, I'd go to school in two room school, walk two miles of school and two miles back home every day.

And my boy says, yeah, uphill all the way, both ways. But I thank God for my experience in life. I really do.

He's taught me so, so much in the shadow of death. And you know, a lot of the time I've been watching about what's happened over in Syria and about how that that country has the leadership has fallen. Those people, people talk about they don't know what's going to happen.

Who's going to be taking over and everything. And some of those people are terrorists and everything. And so we sometimes don't understand how blessed we are.

And you know, I believe we ought to be more thankful than we are just to be honest with you. I really do believe that. But walk in darkness and in the land of the shadow of death.

You see, it describes more than just that area of when they've been attacked by the Assyrians. It describes the person who has never come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They wouldn't admit it.

They don't think it. And I know that because I talk to people that tell me all the time, you know, I've never made a profession of faith. I've never followed the Lord in baptism, membership in a New Testament church and those kind of thing.

And I want to tell you, there is such thing as a New Testament church. There is such thing as assemblies that are not. And the Bible is very clear about that.

But I know. And when you talk to them, they wouldn't tell you they're walking in darkness. They wouldn't tell you that they're living in the land of the shadow of death.

But they are. They really, really are. And sometimes when we witness to people, we have opportunity to share that with them.

But it says upon them have the light shined. Now I told you this is a messianic text. That means it's making reference to Jesus coming into the world and born into the world and the light coming into the world.

So I want you to turn with me, if you would, to the book. Well, let's look at another text, I think is neat in the 60th chapter of this books, Chapter 60 of Isaiah. And you can flip over there a few pages in your Bible.

And I'll read you some verses in Chapter 60. In Chapter 60. And here's what it says.

Listen to this language. It says arise shine for the light is come. And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Isn't that interesting? That's what it is. And the, and the glory of the Lord. I got a phone call this morning when I was out in the vestibule.

Preach a friend of mine. We text each other. He's out in the western part of the state.

We text each other. We've known each other for many, many, many years. I remember one time I preached a revival effort for him.

And at the time he was by vocational preacher and he was a deputy sheriff. And so that week I stayed with them in their home. And he was going to go make this visit.

And he said, now I want you to go with me and I want you to dress in your time code and everything. That's what I want you to do. And when I make this visit, I don't want you to say nothing.

You're just going to be there. And so I did. I went with him.

I stood there and I looked around and everything. And he got that guy to admit that he had committed a crime and he arrested him right there on the spot and he took him to jail. He said, you know what happened, don't you? And I said, no, I don't.

I said, he didn't know who you was. He didn't know what you was doing there. But he thought you were somebody pretty important in law enforcement.

And it scared him. I thought that was funny. I never will forget that.

But anyway, he called me this morning about the glory of the Lord. That's what he's going to be preaching on this morning, the glory of the Lord. Verse 2, for behold the darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the people.

But the Lord shall arise upon thee and his glory shall be seen upon thee. Now before I forget it, I want to tell you I'm going to be preaching another message from Psalm 63 tonight, first eight verses. And I'm going to talk a little bit about that.

It'll be about the fourth sermon that I've brought from that text. And so I tell you when I think of it, so you'll read it and think about it and come all inspired and ready to learn. And verse 3, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light.

Aren't you thankful for that? Aren't you thankful that the gospel that he came into his own, his own received him? Not, but as many as received him, gave you the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. That's where I'm preaching to Gentiles this morning. And I know you're glad that the gospel message came to you, that Jesus came into this world.

And that's what he says. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light and the kings of to the brightness of the rising, thy rising. And you know, that's what it's about.

You know, we want to see people saved. We want to see people come to the Lord, but you know what? They're just not going to do it until the light shines on them. It's not going to happen.

There are people that believe they can talk anybody anytime into trusting the Lord. I won't tell you what I've learned over the many years. You won't do that unless the Holy Spirit is working in their life and giving them light.

That's what it's all about. And they'll come to the light. They'll come to the light.

A man told me one time, said, preacher. And maybe some of his family had come to the Lord or something. He said, you're like a light bulb at night in the summertime.

I said, what did you say that for? He said, have you ever noticed that the moths just flock to it? Well, people flock to the light. That's Jesus. That's who they flock to.

And so I'm going to show you that text first. But then I want you to turn with me to Matthew chapter four. In Matthew chapter four.

And I want you to see this. I want you to look at it while I read it. Matthew chapter four.

And these are the verses that I want to share with you from this chapter. Beginning in verse four. No, I'm sorry.

Beginning in verse 12. Beginning in verse 12. Now watch this.

And now when Jesus had heard, and of course these words come at the end of his temptation, the devil tempting him. What an interesting story that is in the first 10 verses of that. It said in verse 11, the devil leave with him alone.

And behold, the angels came and ministered to him. Then in verse 12, here's the passage I want you to see. Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee.

Now before I read on, I want to share with you what that verse number one of our text that we're reading where it mentioned in Galilee of the nations. At the end of verse one, Galilee of the nations. So the Bible tells us here that he departed to Galilee.

And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwell in Capernaum, same area, which is upon the seacoast in the border. Now listen to this. In the border of Zebulun and Nephilim.

Those are the two cities we just read about in Isaiah chapter nine. So this is where Jesus has gone. Now the Bible tells us that light is coming to a land that is walking in darkness and in the land of the shadow of death.

And that's what this area had been like. And so Jesus comes there and it's mentioned those two cities. And it says in verse 14 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet saying the land of Zebulun and the land of Nephilim by the way of the sea beyond Jordan Galilee of the nation.

That's what it said in our text this morning. The people which set in darkness saw a great light and to them which set in the region of shadow of death death light is sprung upon them. You know what that verse is saying? That passage? That passage is saying that Jesus coming to Galilee of the nations and ministering there is the fulfillment of what Isaiah had said.

Isn't that interesting? It actually identifies the actual place. And it goes on down here and it says in verse 23 and Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people and on and on you can read about that. What's that talking about? It's talking about the earthly ministry of our Savior.

It's talking about light coming to people who walked in darkness and it's talking about encouragement coming to a people that lived or walked in a shadow of death. Isn't that something? Well I want to tell you something that describes our world that we live in. People everywhere.

They don't, they're not aware of it. They wouldn't admit it but they walk in darkness. People who don't know the Lord, they walk in darkness.

They actually live in the shadow of death and it's coming. It's coming. Every single one of us this morning are going to die if the Lord don't come back to this earth.

We're going to pass from this earth and you know what? The day that you die it will be eternally too late to change anything that's going on in your life. That's a fact. That is a fact and I want to tell you what if that's not motivation enough to make somebody seek the Lord while he may be found and call upon him while he's near.

If that won't do it, nothing will. You know I remember in the book of Luke when he's talking about the rich man and Lazarus and you remember that the Lord was asked or father Abraham

was asked to raise

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