Wonderful Counselor

Isaiah 9:1-7
December 1, 2024

The Background to God's Promise:

THE BIG IDEA: **Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor.** He is the living Word, the infallible source of guidance, the inexhaustible wisdom, the Truth, and the Way. His salvation is given to those who rest on Him.

> *For to us a child is born,*
> *to us a son is given;*
> *and the government shall be upon his shoulder,*
> *and his name shall be called*
> *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,*
> *Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*
> Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)

"Wonderful" - Extraordinary; too wonderful for words
"Counselor" - To advise, to counsel, to guide

What makes a Wonderful Counselor?

1. He Knows you.

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)

16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)

2. He Cares about you.

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7 (ESV)

3. He is Committed to you.

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6 (ESV)

How Do I Experience Jesus as My Wonderful Counselor?

1. Be brutally Honest with the Counselor.

Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved. Psalms 55:22 (ESV)

2. Listen to the Counselor's Voice.

…a voice came out of the cloud: "This is my beloved Son;, listen to Him!" Mark 9:7 (ESV)

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27 (ESV)

3. Do what the Counselor Tells you to do.

My sheep hear my voice; and I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27 (ESV)

Questions for You to Ponder

1. Who has your ear? Which voice is most influencing your life?
2. When you have a major decision to make, do you seek God first, last, or never?
3. Do you understand that the Wonderful Counselor has no desire to be one of many voices you consider? To call Jesus Lord means that whatever He says, we will do.
4. Are you ready to start hearing and following Jesus' voice?

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25 Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
26 My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
Psalm 73:25–26 (ESV)