

The Wonderful Counselor

I. INTRODUCTION

6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Is 9:6)

- A.** Isaiah 9:6 stands as one of the clearest and most glorious messianic prophecies in the Old Testament. Spoken into a time of darkness, political instability, and spiritual decline in Israel and Judah, this verse shines with the promise of divine hope. The people were facing oppression, fear, and the consequences of their sin, yet God declared that a great light would come.
- B.** This verse reveals that the coming Deliverer would be both fully human and fully divine. He is born as a child, given as a Son, yet He bears titles that belong only to God: *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*. These names describe His nature, authority, and eternal reign. Isaiah 9:6 points unmistakably to Jesus Christ, whose incarnation fulfills God's promise to redeem and rule His people.
- C.** He is the **Wonderful Counselor**: Jesus gives us His counsel that is filled with divine wisdom. He counsels us through the inspired, inherent, infallible word of God. He counsels with grace poured upon His lips imparting divine enabling power to walk out the wisdom given. Jesus counsels us through His spirit that lives inside of us guiding us into all truth. (*Jn 16:13*)

II. JESUS COUNSELS WITH DIVINE WISDOM

29 This... comes from the Lord... Who is wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance. (Is 28:29)

- A.** Jesus does not counsel like earthly advisors, whose understanding is limited and flawed. His wisdom is infinite, flowing from His divine nature. In Revelation 1, His head and hair are described as "white like wool." This language harkens back to Daniel 7, when the Ancient of Days is seated and described as having hair like "pure wool."

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me...13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man... 14 His head and hair were white like wool as white as snow, and His eyes were like flames of fire. (Rev 1:12-14)

- B.** Wisdom and knowledge are wrapped in the person of Jesus. According to Paul, in the book of Colossians, this wisdom is like hidden treasure ready for the human heart to discover.

3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Col 2:3)

- C. Jesus sees all and knows all. He sees the heart *John 2:25*, understands every motive, and never gives misguided counsel. If we knew all the facts to know about a situation we still would only know a fraction of a percent in comparison to Him regarding the situation.

III. JESUS COUNSELS THROUGH HIS WORD

- A. Christ counsels His people through Scripture. The Bible is not merely inspirational it is instructional. The word of God is to be a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

24 Your testimonies also are my delight and my counselors. (Ps 119:24)

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Ps 119:105)

- B. The word reveals the thoughts and intents of the heart.

12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Heb 4:12)

- C. We take the Word to Him in prayer to hear His counsel. The word testifies of Jesus, His plans, His ways, and His heart. To receive the counsel and life from the word we take the word to a person who has living understanding eager and willing to bring revelation.

38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. 39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 But you are not willing come to Me that you may have life. (Jn 5:38-40)

IV. JESUS COUNSELS WITH GRACE UPON HIS LIPS

2 You are fairer than the sons of men; grace is poured upon Your lips...(Ps 45:2)

- A. Jesus gives counsel with tenderness, patience, and enabling power.

3 A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench...(Is 42:3)

- B. Grace is the unmerited favor of God upon our hearts, minds, relationships, and circumstances... etc. Grace teaches, empowers and instructs us to deny ungodliness and worldly lust, helps us to life soberly, righteously, and godly in the present evil age. It is this grace that is poured upon His lips. It is this grace that is imparted with every word He speaks.

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present evil age. (Titus 2:11-12)

- C. In John 6, Peter tells Jesus, “You have the words of life to where else could we go?” Peter had ears to hear these life giving words and declares there are no other options for getting this life giving message. His words are our manna from heaven and He is our daily bread.

66 from that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” 68 But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” (Jn 6:66-68)

V. JESUS COUNSELS BY HIS SPIRIT

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for he will not speak on His own authority, but whatever he hears He will speak... (Jn 16:13)

- A. We are to ask the Spirit to teach us about God’s will and ways that He may manifest His leadership in every issue in your life including finances, schedule, circumstances, emotions, physical body (diet, health), relationships, alignment of the people you are responsible for (in the home, office, ministry), future, greatness in God, opportunities with divine appointments, fears, addictions and shortcomings. Ask that He establish God’s order in your home, job and ministry. We pray, “Spirit, I love Your will and ways, therefore, manifest Your leadership in me”. He will give us new ideas, order our steps and open doors of opportunity for strategic alliances in each area of our life as we ask Him.

26 The Holy Spirit...will teach you all things... (Jn. 14:26)

13 The Spirit of truth...will guide you into all truth; He will tell you things to come. (Jn. 16:13)

27 The anointing...abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things... (1 Jn. 2:27)

- B. The spirit of Elijah operates with the prophetic whisper of God (still small voice).

11 The LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains...and after the wind an earthquake...12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire (wind or earthquake); and after the fire a still small voice. 13 When Elijah heard it...suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (1 Kings 19:11-13)

C. David calmed and quieted his soul. We need to dial down or just take our foot off the gas pedal and listen (without stirring our souls up to fervor). An over-active soul keeps us out of sync with the subtle movements of the Spirit. We quiet our soul to connect with the Spirit's whisper in our heart. We quiet the turbulent activity of our soul in our clamoring for attention, pleasure, a restless anxious spirit that naturally active. It takes a while to get in sync with this (few months).

2 Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me. (Ps. 131:2)

D. As we linger in His presence, speak affectionately (intermittently saying to God, “I love You”) speak slowly, softly, briefly and minimally (listen twice as much as talking) with many pauses, praying with our spirit (*I Cor. 14:2*) along with gently sighing (*Rom. 8:26*) with gazing in silence for few seconds or minutes. “Less is more” in terms of amount and volume of speaking. Journal: take time to record thoughts and prayers so as to capture the truths He gives us.

VI. STANDING IN THE COUNSEL OF THE LORD

A. In this hour of human history let us be a people who stand in the counsel of the Lord and perceive His Word. We want to hear from the one who is hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. He has much counsel to give and is eager to share His thoughts with us.

18 For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, and has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it? (Jer 23:18)

B. Daniel was given “skill to understand” the leadership of God over His People (Israel) and His City (Jerusalem). The counsel of the Lord brings understanding regarding current events and events yet to unfold.

22 And he (Gabriel) informed me, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. 23 At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand... (Dan 9:22-23)

C. Standing in the counsel of the Lord is not reserved for the “elite rambo christians” but rather made available for the *whosoever has ears to hear.* (*Mt 13:3-12*)

D. Charles Spurgeon noted that Christ’s counsel is “*wonderful in its depth, wonderful in its certainty, and wonderful in its effect.*”