

The Gospel According to Isaiah: For to us a Child is Born Discussion Questions for Isaiah 9:1-7

Open It

What positive associations do you have with light?

What are some of the injustices in our society that you have noticed and care about?

Explore It

Although he had been preaching God's judgment (particularly on the kingdom of Israel), what total reversal did Isaiah foresee in the future? (9:1)

What contrasting images did Isaiah use to set the scene of his prophecy? (9:2)

To what situations did Isaiah compare the joy that will be Israel's? (9:3)

What did Isaiah predict God would do for Israel, causing her to rejoice? (9:4-5)

How does Isaiah describe the Ruler who will be provided by God for His people? (9:6-7)

When God judged Israel, what erroneous thinking prevailed among the people? (9:8-10)

What foreign powers did God use to ensure that Israel would not quickly be rebuilt? (9:11-12)

What refrain did Isaiah use to emphasize the seriousness of God's wrath? (9:12)

What choice did the people make about their response to the God-provoked suffering? (9:13)

How did Isaiah portray the cross-section of society that would come under God's judgment? (9:14-17)

How did Isaiah portray the depths to which Israel would sink when God abandoned them to their own devices? (9:18-21)

What sins of the powerful did God single out in His list of judgments? (10:1-2)

What rhetorical question did God ask the oppressors of His people? (10:3)

Get It

What attributes of God are apparent in this passage?

How is God's promise of the coming child an answer to His anger over our sin?

How does God intend for us to respond when He corrects or disciplines us?

How would you explain the Light that came into your darkness?

Why might it be dangerous to downplay the seriousness of our situation whenever we encounter hardship?

How much of the injustice Isaiah condemned in his time do you see in our own time?

Apply It

What specific injustice in your area of influence can you challenge in the name of God?
How?

What person do you know who is still "walking in darkness" for whom God would have you pray?