Subject: Unto Us a Child Is Born Scripture: Isaiah 9:6-7

All children are a special gift from God. *Psalms 127:3* Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

But there is one child that stands out from all others as God's supreme gift, the Christ child.

What Child is This?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

1. He was a child of special promise

There is the promise of Isaiah 9:6-7 and Isaiah 7:14, written over 700 years before His birth.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

2. <u>He was a child of lowly birth</u>

He was born in a cattle stall and laid in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn. He was born in Bethlehem of which it was said...

<u>Micah 5:2</u> But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

He was raised in Nazareth of Galilee of which it was said...

John 1:45-46 ⁴⁵ Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. ⁴⁶ And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

3. He was a child of perfect character

<u>Luke 1:35</u> And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

All other children are born with a sin nature. *Psalms 51:5* Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

But Christ was the perfectly holy child. He had sinless perfection all through His life so that He could be our sacrifice and high priest. *Hebrews 7:26* For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.

4. He was a child of normal development

Luke 2:40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Luke 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

5. He was a child of misunderstood identity

Luke 2:42-50

John 6:41-42 ⁴¹ The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven. ⁴² And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?

6. He was a child of Satan's hatred

Matthew 2:13-16

Revelation 12:1-5

7. <u>He was a child of divine purpose</u>

Our text in Isaiah 9:6-7 describes God's purpose for his life. He was to shoulder the government of God's kingdom, and He was qualified as the Wonderful Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. His kingdom would always increase and never end. He would sit on the throne of David to order and establish the kingdom with judgment and justice forever. God would make sure that His purpose was accomplished.

Now that we see what the Bible teaches about this child, what impact should that have on us? We should receive Christ with love, humility, and faith. Unto us a child is born.