

**THE ONE WHO IS FULL OF WONDER
ISAIAH 9:6**

Introduction

This verse is FULL! In fact, about 8 years ago I preached a series of six messages right from this very verse focusing on each name here. I'm not preaching that series again, but I do want us to both examine and to think about just the first name listed here— "**Wonderful**"—what a name it is!

The word translated "*Wonderful*" means "*miracle*" and comes from a root word that means "*to separate or to distinguish and to be great, difficult, full of wonder!*" I like that last definition! "**FULL OF WONDER!**"

It is a word, or in this instance a name, that is used to describe **that which is otherwise indescribable or that which leaves you in awe!** It is most fitting that this word or descriptive name is used to describe our Lord Jesus Christ!

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Some say that "**Wonderful**" is just an adjective describing the next name, which is "**Counselor.**" Now, we know that Jesus is a **Wonderful Counselor**, I'm not denying that! But He is **ALSO** in many and varied ways "**Wonderful**" or "**Full of Wonder**"!

"**Wonderful**" describes just **WHO** Jesus is, just like the other four names that are listed do! As I said, the Hebrew word translated Wonderful means "*a miracle.*" How fitting is that! He didn't just perform miracles, HE WAS HIMSELF A MIRACLE! Amen!

Just the Person of Jesus Christ, when pondered, causes great amazement and wonder in the mind and heart of a person. Napoleon Bonaparte is reported to have once said: "*I know men; and I tell you that Jesus Christ is not a man. Everything about him amazes me. His spirit overawes me, and his will confounds me. There is no possible comparison between him and any other being in the world. He is truly a being by himself. His birth, the history of his life, the profoundness of his doctrine, his gospel, his march across the ages—all these are to me a wonder, an insoluble mystery. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and I founded empires. But on what did the*

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creations of our genius rest? On force. Jesus Christ alone founded his empire on love; and at this hour millions would die for him. I am at St. Helena, . . . I die before my time; him whom the world called The Great Napoleon! What an abyss between my deep misery and the eternal reign of Christ which is proclaimed, loved, adored, and which is extending over all the earth!"
(Rev. Eugene Bersier)

Truly, our Lord Jesus Christ is someone who is FULL of wonder! In fact, we could never exhaust the wealth of truths that rests in that one magnificent name of Jesus!

I could preach every day, all day, and would never run out of things to say about this One Who is truly "**Wonderful**" above all that has ever been called or ever will be called **wonderful!**

I want us to look at that name, Wonderful, this evening and let it sink down deep into our hearts, and possibly change our perspective of Him, once again – making that knowledge deeper, broader, wider, and higher!

Jesus Christ should never be boring, or dull to us! As we read and study what the Bible says about Jesus **our hearts should be full of wonder because He is Wonderful!**

As we approach Christmas Day this Sunday, let's look at how **WONDERFUL** Jesus really is!

I. THERE IS THE WONDER OF FULFILLED PROPHECY!
According to the author Josh McDowell in his book "*Evidence That Demands A Verdict*", there are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament about the coming Messiah that were fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ! I want you to think about how profound that really is!

Fulfilled prophecy is one of the great proofs of the Deity of Jesus Christ! God began to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus with a multitude of prophecies in the Old Testament concerning Him!

A. Christ Is The Promised Seed In The Very First Prophecy Of Him In The Garden Of Eden!

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Genesis 3:15—“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

B. Christ Was Spoken Of And Typified Throughout ALL Of The Old Testament Scripture!

Luke 24:25-27—“Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

C. Christ Fulfilled Some Very Specific Prophecies!

1. Some Related To His Birth!
2. Some Related To His Life And Ministry!
3. Some Related To His Death And Burial!
4. Some Related To His Resurrection And Ascension!

D. The Great Wonder Is That All Of These Specific Prophecies Were Fulfilled In One Person—Jesus Christ!

One cannot deny the wonder of the Person of Jesus Christ seeing that all these prophecies came true to the letter in His life!

E. As Believers, We Should Never Grow Tired Of Seeing The Lord Jesus Pointed To Throughout The Whole Bible!

May God help us to not miss out on the Old Testament Scriptures! They paint a marvelous picture of God’s Son and were they were ALL fulfilled in that one solitary life!

THERE IS THE WONDER OF FULFILLED PROPHECY...

II. THERE IS THE WONDER OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH!

Now there have been other births that caused one to wonder—

Isaac’s birth to Abraham and Sarah.

John The Baptist’s birth to Zacharias and Elisabeth.

However, no other birth has caused such wonder as the birth of Christ!

Isaiah 7:14—“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold,

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a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

A. He Was Not Born NOT By Genetic Engineering, But By God’s Engineering Through The Virgin Birth!

The Virgin Birth was a miracle! It is too awesome for us to understand or figure out!

To this day, you have to have TWO sets of 23 chromosomes to make a human being – one set from a momma and one set from a daddy! Today doctors are trying to mess around with the fertilization process trying to get it to where there doesn’t have to be a daddy!

- 1) I understand that they have gotten it to work with a few species, but not with humans yet!
- 2) Where they have gotten it to work, they can only make females in mammals – never males!
- 3) The virgin birth of a Son is an impossible wonder! Impossible with man, but not with God!

C. He Was Born A King At His Birth!

He did not become a King when He grew up like normal princes and kings, He was born King!

Matthew 2:2—“Where is he that is born King of the Jews?”

D. He Was Born A Lamb At His Birth!

From the time of His birth, Jesus was here for only one purpose –to save us from our sins as the one final Holy Lamb sacrificed in our place!

How fitting for a lamb to be born in a stable!

How fitting for the birth of a lamb to be announced first to shepherds!

THERE IS THE WONDER OF FULFILLED PROPHECY...THE VIRGIN BIRTH...

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III. THERE IS THE WONDER OF HIS VERY LIFE!

A. He Is Wonderful In That He Lived! (And He Lives!)

Jesus is a historical person! You will find Him mentioned in books of history other than just the Bible! (Josephus, others)

B. He Is Wonderful In That He Cared! (And He Cares!)

1. He cared about a short tax collector named Zaccheus in a Sycamore tree.
2. He cared about a little girl named Tabitha who had died.
3. He cared about a widow woman as she was burying her only son—so He raised that young man back to life for his mom’s sake.
4. He cared about lepers—He even touched them to heal them.
5. He cared about children—He rebuked His disciples for not allowing them access to Him!
6. He cared about an adulterous woman of Samaria He met at a well.
7. He cared about the multitudes who followed Him.
8. He cares about me and you!

C. He Is Wonderful In That He Stayed!

He lived on this earth for 33 ½ long years.

1. He could have left at any time He wanted!
2. He could have even come down off the cross!
3. He could have sought revenge for all the injustice showed Him!
4. But He didn’t! Praise God – Jesus stayed all the way

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until Redemption was finished!

The Life of Christ is THE greatest life ever lived, and His life is the only one truly worth learning from and emulating! All of the greatest of humanity is but dung compared to Christ!

IV. THERE IS THE WONDER OF HIS LOVE!

2 Corinthians 5:14—“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:”

A. People Could Tell That Jesus Loved Them!

Every person He touched knew of His love for them!
His disciples knew of His love!
Others throughout history who came to Him knew of His love!
Anyone who will come to Him today can know of His love!

B. The Love Of Christ Is The Secret To A Heart Full Of Joy!

1. You are loved by Christ!
2. One who has never known the love of Christ for them personally doesn’t know what true love is – not at all!

C. Every Word Of The Gospels Is Permeated With His Love!

D. Everything Jesus Did Was Out Of His Great Love For Us!

1. He Left Heaven!
2. He Humbled Himself!
3. He Took Our Place!
4. He Arose Again!

Just the thought of His wondrous love for us should amaze and overwhelm each of us!

V. THERE IS THE WONDER OF HIS DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION! —THE WONDER OF THE GOSPEL!

A. Only Jesus Could Take Death And Be Wonderful In It!

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Amen!

B. No One Killed Him Apart From His Allowing It!

John 10:17-18—“Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. 18No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.”

C. He Wilfully, Carefully, And Specifically Did Some Things For Us In His Death:

1. He became sin for us – He never sinned at all, yet took the guilt of our sin!
2. He was punished in our place – we should have gone to hell!
3. He bore the punishment – He did not reject it like all of us would have!
4. He died for the very ones who were trying to kill Him!
5. He was doing just what **Isaiah 53** said would happen!

D. All Those Around The Cross Stood Amazed At The Events Of That Day!

Matthew 27:54—“Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.”

E. What Looked Like Such A Disaster And Defeat, Was Actually A Wonderful Victory!

Colossians 2:13-15—“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

14Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a

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show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

F. His Death Was Wonderful In That It Did Not End With The Grave, But With The Resurrection!

G. To This Very Day, The Greatest Thing To Preach About, To Ponder, And To Rejoice In, Is The Death Burial, And Resurrection Of Jesus Christ Because Of Just How Truly Wonderful It Is!

VI. THERE IS WONDER IN HIS PRESENT MINISTRY!

Colossians 3:1—“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”

Jesus is very busy in heaven!

A. He Is Reigning!

B. He Is Saving!

C. He Is Preparing!

John 14:2c—“I go to prepare a place for you.”

D. He Is Interceding!

Romans 8:34—“...who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.”

Hebrews 7:25—“...he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

VII. THERE WILL BE WONDER THROUGHOUT ALL ETERNITY WITH HIM! (Hebrews 13:8—“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.)

CONCLUSION

The Person of Jesus Christ—when pondered, causes great amazement and wonder in the mind and heart of a person. We have taken a look at that name, Wonderful this evening. Let it sink down deep into your heart, and change your perspective of Him!