

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called **Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.** <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (Isaiah 9:6-7)

*The first thing I can remember considering a WONDER, or wonderful, as a child was WONDER BREAD!*

"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. <sup>11</sup> And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed *them* to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." <sup>13</sup> Therefore they gathered *them* up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. (John 6:9-13)

And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. (John 6:35)

<sup>2</sup> "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting." (Micah 5:2)

בֵּית לֶחֶם Beyth Lechem {bayth leh'-khem} **Meaning:** Beth-lehem = "house of bread (food)"

I. *Christ is wonderful in His personhood and natures; therefore, we should worship Him –*

**<sup>6</sup> For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful ... (Isaiah 9:6-7)**

1. *Christ's two natures and unique personhood are hinted at in these verses –*  
A. *"A child is born" refers to Christ's human nature which is born in time just as each of us have been –*

**<sup>14</sup> Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, ... (Hebrews 2:14)**

**<sup>17</sup> Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, ... (Hebrews 2:17) *Christ is truly, 100% Human!***

B. *"a Son is given" – refers to the fact the eternal Son of God was given to us –*  
**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16) *Christ, as a Son Given, is the Son of God – 100% Divine!***

2. *The eternal Word, Son of God became flesh (human) **He became God in our language, the Word** –*

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (John 1:1-3)**

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14) *In Christ, we see God's glory embodied, communicated in human flesh – THIS is Wonderful!***

**W. S. C. Question 22** How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Answer: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, (Hebrews 2:14,16, & 10:5) and a reasonable soul, (Matthew 26:38) being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and born of her, (Luke 1:27,31,35,42, Galatians 4:4) yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15, & 7:26)

*The Westminster Shorter Catechism attempts to describe Christ's becoming a human being, in BRIEF!*

*It is a skeleton without skin – In Luke 1:31- 35 We have the Angel's version of this given to Mary -*

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. <sup>32</sup> "He will be great, and will be called the **Son of the Highest**; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. <sup>33</sup> "And **He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.**" <sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said to her, "**The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.** (Luke 1:31-35 NKJ)

3. *The Hebrew word translated "wonderful" here in Isaiah 9:6 פֶּלִיאַי pele' {peh'-leh} implies Jesus is God -*

**Meaning:** 1) wonder, marvel 1a) wonder extraordinary, hard to understand thing) 1b) wonder (of God's acts of judgment and redemption)

"To designate Christ with the word pele' is to make the clearest attestation of His Deity." Edward J. Young

*Because Jesus is God, we should worship Him!*

<sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup> And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power *Be* to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup> Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and **worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.** (Revelation 5:12-14 NKJ) He Who lives forever is also called - Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father

*II. Christ is wonderful in His works; therefore, we should trust Him –*

**And His name will be called Wonderful ... (Isaiah 9:6-7 B)**

1. *The word פֶּלֵא' pele' used here as a Name of Christ, is usually used in Scripture to describe God's miracles –*

**12 He wrought wonders (same Hebrew word פֶּלֵא' pele' ) before their Fathers. In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan. 13 He divided the sea and caused them to pass through, And He made the waters stand up like a heap. 14 Then He led them with the cloud by day And all the night with a light of fire. 15 He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave *them* abundant drink like the ocean depths. 16 He brought forth streams also from the rock and caused waters to run down like rivers.**

**Psalm 78:12-16**

2. *Moses made water into blood, Jesus turned water into wine, Jesus' miracles were more than Moses' and merciful rather than miracles of judgment -*

**And truly Jesus did many other signs (signs here means miracles, wonders) in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)**

**<sup>11</sup> "Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. (John 14:11)**

*Among those works were the feeding of the 5,000, the raising of Lazarus, the healing of the man born blind ...*

3. *Jesus' wonderful works includes His work on the cross – **Isaiah 53, 1 Corinthians 1:18***

*Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is no beauty that we should desire Him.* <sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid,*

as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. <sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:1-6)

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18 NKJ)

*Jesus' work on the cross was and is important and as valuable as any of His miraculous works, as it is the power of God for our salvation!*

*He is the Arm of the LORD for us, in His willingness to die for us!*

*His raising from the dead is something we believe, unto salvation –*

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. <sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." <sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" <sup>16</sup> But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" (Romans 10:10-16)

*Believe in your heart*

*Make confession with your mouth*

*Call upon the Name of the LORD and be saved – prayer*

*This is how we are to respond to Christ's miracles, this is how we should respond to Christ's Word / Preaching / Counseling which leads to my last point -*

*III. Christ is wonderful as a counselor; therefore, we should listen to Him! We should obey Him! –*

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

*Note the difference in punctuation -*

**6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6**

*Some, including myself, believe Wonderful Counselor, the two words, adjective and job description are meant to be together, just like Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace are meant to be put together. Of course, Wonder or Wonderful describes Christ by itself, my first two points display that. Yet, Wonderful Counselor is definitely an accurate description of Christ as well.*

*1. Christ is a wonderful counselor because His counsel, is different, holy, higher, above us –*

**<sup>9</sup> "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:9)**

*We see this in parts of Christ's teaching / counsel that may seem strange to us –*

*A. The beatitudes give us an excellent example of this -*

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Matthew 5:3-5)**

*B. These words could be translated, happy are the severely depressed or spiritually bankrupt; happy are those who are wailing with loud, extremely sad crying and happy are the meek, because they will gain what the aggressive go-getters, won't be able to attain!*

*C. There are explanations for each of the beatitudes:*

*\*Poor in spirit = a right evaluation of ourselves, as we have nothing apart from God's grace*

*\*Blessed mourning refers to mourning over sin, as such a person has a right understanding of sin's destructive nature*

*\*Meekness about the earth is consistent with seeking first God's Kingdom, and setting our affections on things above – **Matthew 6:33; Colossians 3:1-3***

**"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)**

**If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:1-3)**

*2. Christ is also a wonderful counselor because He always tells us the truth, even the hard truth –*

*A. Truth about ourselves, our sin -*

**"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, `These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: <sup>15</sup> "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. <sup>17</sup> "Because you say, `I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-- and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-- (Revelation. 3:14-17)**

*B. Truth about how to repent, to get right again -*

**"I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. (Revelation 3:18)**

*C. Truth motivated by love –*

**"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. (Revelation 3:19)**

*3. Christ is a wonderful counselor because His Words / The Word comes with spiritual power –*

**"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. (John 6:63)**

**So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17)**

*Christ is a wonderful counselor: listen, obey, -*

**"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 3:22)**

### ***Psalm 1***

Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; <sup>2</sup> But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. <sup>3</sup> He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. <sup>4</sup> The ungodly *are* not so, But *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psalm 1:1-6)

*Christmastime is a great time to recommit yourself to Christ: He is our Light, He is our Joy! He is our Liberty!*

- 1. He is the Wonderful God -man - Worship Him wholeheartedly*
- 2. He is the worker of Wonders, Miracles, and even our salvation - Trust Him completely*
- 3. As He is our Wonderful Counselor - Hear Him and obey Him*

<sup>15</sup> **"If you love Me, keep My commandments. (John 14:15)**

*Arnold A. Brevick*