

ISAIAH 9 vs 1

¹ Nevertheless the dimness / the gloomy darkness,

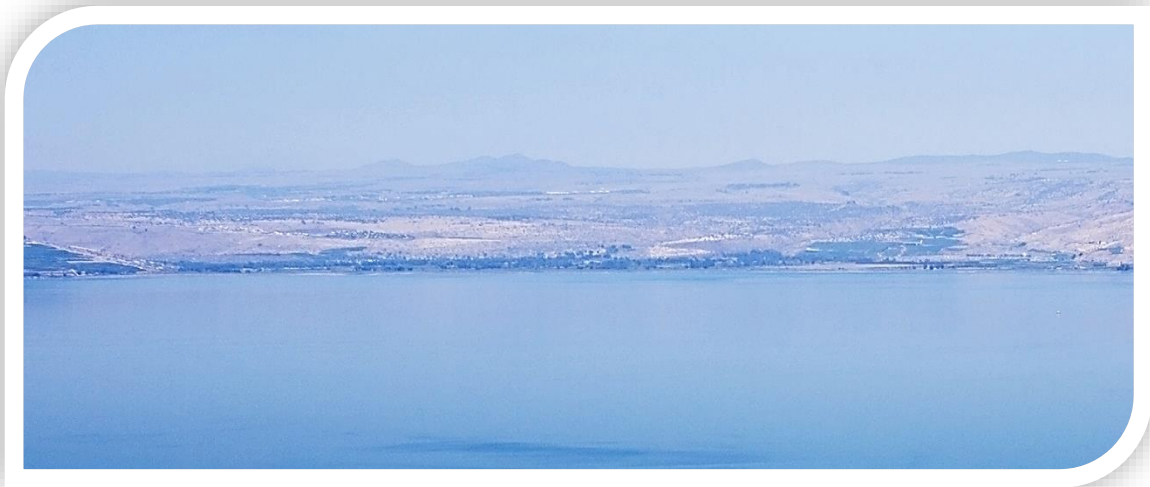
will not be such as was in her vexation / her anguish,

when at the first when He lightly afflicted the land of Zebulon

and the land of Naphtali / Isaiah is reminding about the earlier Assyrian invasion; when the 10 northern tribes of Israel... possessing all the birthright promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... were taken into captivity; and then they moved further... to a different place of their own – 2 Samuel 7,

and afterward did more grievously afflict her / this describes the invasion of king Hazael... all the way up to Jerusalem's doorstep,

by the way of the sea, in Galilee of the nations...



beyond Jordan / from history 2700 years ago... we know, this region is west of the Jordan River.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light / the region where Jesus the Christ first called and taught His disciples when He came the first time in great humility; the place where He gave His Sermon on the Mount – of great blessings to His people; where He reaffirmed God's covenant to those who would do and teach His commandments; where He taught the nations to pray to our Father in heaven – Matthew 5 -7; as well as where He met with over 500 brethren at the same time after His resurrection – 1Corinthians 15:

the people who walked in darkness / those who carelessly forgot the ways of God for centuries...

have seen a great light,

the greatest light; full of grace and truth;

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those who dwell in the land of the shadow of death,

upon them has the light shined

...here, the Lord is promising... the ones who first endured the afflictions... would be honored by God to first receive **the Light of the world**.

Verse 3 You multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy / or better and more clearly...

and hasn't the joy increased also?

they joy before You / like farmers and workers of the field;

according to the joy in harvest / what? you know, most people now days, don't know that joy!

We shop... well really, we complain at the local market, right?

they joy before You

according to the joy in harvest / you know, after the sweat and toil and long hours since the early planting. You know, right?

they joy before You as soldiers rejoice / what?

when they divide the spoil / in victory! Oh, of course... after the battle is fought. That joy!

4 For You have broken the yoke of his burden / the tools of slavish cruelty have been smashed,

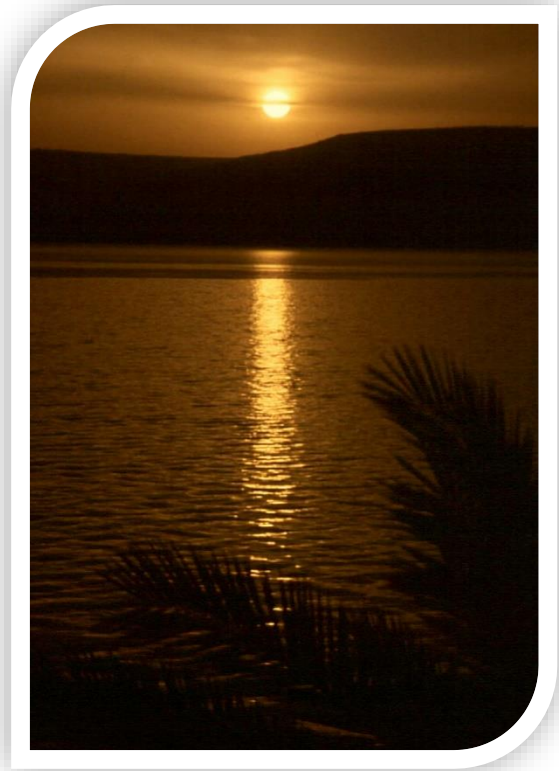
and the beam on his shoulder,

the club of his oppressor,

as in the day of Midian / recalling when Gideon and his 300 were victorious in the Lord.

Verse 5 For every gory battle of the warrior is with confused noise / with frenzy and clamor... and mistakes being made,

and with garments rolled in blood;



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but *all that...* will be with burning and fuel of fire / more clearly...

but *all that...* will be done away with... and burned in the fire.

Why? Because God has something better in mind; listen:

Verse ⁶ For to us a **Child** is born,

to us a **Son** is given:

and the government

will be upon... **His shoulder** / to govern is His honor; it is His burden... His alone!

and His name will be called:



Wonderful Counselor / after all, He is the Wisdom of God,

He is...



The God almighty,

He is...



The Father of eternity,

He is...



The Prince of Peace / which Child, whose Son... is this gift?

So unlike all the worthless rulers of the world – be they civil or religious... whose kingdom began in gold and splendor... but will end in the iron and clay trash heap of history...

Verse ⁷ **Of the increase of His government...**

and peace...

there will be no end!

Wow! Can you imagine? This Child... this Son... actually knows how to govern and manage;

and peace... **not** like the world gives... but real peace... comes from Him,

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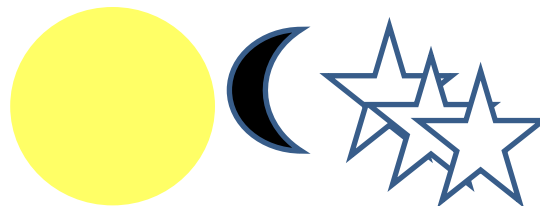
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set upon the throne of David / so David's throne

over Israel... will still exist when He comes again,

according to Jeremiah 33; if the sun, the moon and the stars

are still doing what the Creator made them do in the beginning,



and set upon His kingdom / at His trial, Jesus the Messiah clearly answering Pilate as to whether or not He was a king; at that time, He repeatedly said, *My kingdom is not of this world, if My kingdom was of this world then My servants would fight* – 1 alone could cause every person on planet earth... to soil their pants in a second – the prophet tells us, one day *He will come whose right it is to reign; and the Lord God will set Him in place* – **Ezekiel 21**, sooner than most of us can imagine,

to order it,

and to establish it

with judgment / the Hebrew word is: *mishpat*... literally it means:

the One with authority... to shut the serpent's mouth.

and with righteousness / His right way of doing things; always in truth,

from henceforth even forever.

The zeal / the jealous care and concern,

of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

He will accomplish it. He's going to make it happen.