

Zeal of the Lord

Ch 7

Break the Burden

Let's look at this description of the Messiah within the context in which it is written. I have underlined the positive benefits Israel was hoping and praying that their long-awaited Messiah would accomplish:

Nevertheless, there will be <u>no more gloom for those who were in distress</u>. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future, he <u>will honor Galilee</u> of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of deep darkness <u>a light has dawned</u>.

3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;

they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest,

as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered

the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

5 Every <u>warrior's boot used in battle</u> and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for <u>burning</u>, will be fuel for the fire.

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it

with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

**The zeal of the Lord Almighty** will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:1-7) emphasis added)

## That's an amazing list of awesome blessings, right?

Zeal means an ardor or passion that stirs a heart up. It can even mean, a righteous anger (Yes, God hates injustice and abuse toward you). It can mean a jealousy or envy (Yes, it hurts God, it pains him when you choose to make anything or anyone an idol- more important to you than HE is to you.) God CHOOSES to allow Himself to get stirred up- ZEALOUS—when it comes to His people, when it comes to YOU!

Accomplish means every kind of synonym for "get it done": achieve, bring about, carry out, build it, develop it, makes certain it happens, executes His plan, fulfills His promises, grants that prayer that lines up with His promises, imparts the answer, prepares and preforms when is needed, works and weaves all things together for YOUR good!

Which of these benefits that were promises to Israel are you hoping and longing for? The Lord Almighty is the SAME yesterday, today and forever. That same God, this same CHRIST, has zeal for you too! He can accomplish what is needed in your life too.

Reread this section of scripture. Highlight the phrases that resonate with your heart and life. Now write out a prayer, asking God to accomplish what's on your heart. Which name of Christ in Is. 9:6 do you need to hang your heart on to have hope? Now PRAISE HIM BY FAITH, as if HE has ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED His BEST PLAN, PATH and PURPOSES for YOU!

