

the TAKE HOME 12.13.15

Today's Scripture Passage: Isaiah 9:1-7

Pew Bible page 489

1 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan-- 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men 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 warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, 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 increase 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.

Our Fallen Condition: We often think that we can take care of things on our own. We don't always recognize that we need a Father to take care of us.

The Big Idea of Today's Scripture: Jesus is to us an Everlasting Father; we need to let Him take care of us.

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

- Are you in a humbled state right now? How can you honor God in that situation so that He can honor you?
- Is there are part of your life where you have not allowed the light of Christ to shine? What could be a first step for you to let the light in?
- Are you trusting God to bless you and increase your joy? Or are you working toward success and happiness apart from Him?
- Are you burdened down in some way? What would it look like for you to take rest from Jesus?