



## DEVOTIONAL TIME

07-07-2015 @ 0900

**“What is ‘God’ to You?”**

Isaiah 9:6-7

### THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD!

In Heavenly Armor we'll enter the land; the Battle belongs to the Lord!  
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand; the Battle belongs to the Lord!  
And we sing, “Glory, Honor, Power, and Strength to the Lord!”  
We sing, “Glory, Honor, Power, and Strength to the Lord!”

#### Isaiah 9:6-7

“A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our Ruler. He will be called, “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Eternal Father,” “Prince of Peace.” His royal power will continue to grow; his Kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's Successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the End of Time. The LORD Almighty is determined to do all this!”

### QUESTIONS FOR TODAY

- Have you ever looked upon a newborn infant and wondered, “What will life hold for you, little one?” “What are you destined to become?” “What legacy will you leave your world?”
- In what sense is each “new member” of a family a “gift”? How will this child bless the wider world in any capacity as a “ruler”? What “names” or “titles” will this child earn?
- How do the “childlike” in this world serve as the “Voice of Right and Justice”? In what way is God the Source of their “Wisdom”, “Might”, “Care”, and “Peace”?

God graces us with many gifts. But of all the “gifts” God gives, children are the truest revelations of Divine Nature. Yet each arrives with a wide variety of qualities and capabilities. Each must be respected and cherished. Though some develop in ways “more impressive” than others, all have something to offer. Consider the difference between a Ferrari and a Chevy, or a Bugatti and a “Bug”. For some, “a car is a car, right? They each have four wheels and an engine, and get you from point A to point B. Therefore, there is no difference, right?” Wrong! Anybody who knows anything about cars knows there are vast differences between cars of different makes and models. They each may get you where you want to go, but the speed and style of the trip will differ vastly, depending on the car being driven. Many of us today call ourselves “believers”, but our concept of “God” and “Savior” and the way we see the Lord makes a huge difference in how we live, approach life, and all that comes with it. Isaiah is given a glimpse of the Messiah and His characteristics, and they speak with clarity about who He is, and all that He offers God's People. He is the “Wonderful Counselor”, (or Awesome Adviser), meaning that God will share all the Wisdom we need through this Chosen One. Any advice or guidance we may need for any situation is ours for the asking. He is the “Mighty God” (who holds all power), and therefore handles capably any crisis or situation that may arise in our life; God's “Gift” can resolve it all. As the “Eternal Father”, this “child” forms a new humanity in the true image of God, who has always been, is now, and will always be. Beyond death, he will never “fade” or lose influence, but form the “living Core” of our life. As “Prince of Peace”, (the Commander-Who-Brings-Peace), He realigns all creation to harmony with Divine Will. God, grant us the Grace of Holy Childlikeness. When You send us Your Counsel, open our minds to accept it. As You reveal Your saving Might, teach us to trust You more fully. Be Eternal Father to us, forging a new united human family in the image of Your Love. As Prince of Peace, restore harmony in our hearts, serenity in our souls, and mystic vision in our minds. Be Truth in us, so we may be truly Yours!