THE PROMISE: ANTICIPATED

ISAIAH 9:6

I. The promised wonder "Wonderful"

"His whole manifestation is a wonder or miracle: and great as have been the past wonders which He performed for His people in Egypt at the Red Sea and the Jordan, He shall work still greater wonders for their deliverance hereafter." Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown His birth, His life, His teaching, His miracles, His resurrection, His ascension was wonderful, and His return will be wonderful

II. There promised wisdom "Counselor"

The name "counselor" denotes one of honorable rank; one who is suited to stand near princes and kings as their adviser. It is expressive of great wisdom, and of qualifications to guide and direct the human race. "The God of wonderful counsel."

III. The promised warrior "Mighty God"

This is one, of many, of the instances in which the name God is applied to the Messiah. Horsley translates, 'God the mighty Hero,' or 'Warrior,' the character in which He will manifest Himself against the anti-Christian enemy. As Counselor, He has the wisdom to rule justly and as the Mighty God, He has the power to execute His wise plans.

IV. The promised welfare "Everlasting Father"

He is *the everlasting Father*, or *the Father of eternity;* he is God, one with the Father, who is from everlasting to everlasting. He is the author of everlasting life and happiness to them, and so is the Father of a blessed eternity to them.

The author of eternity, and by whom the Church and every member of it will be preserved forever, and have immortal life.

If you want anything eternal, you must get it from Jesus Christ; He is the "Father of eternity."

V. The promised wholeness "Prince of Peace"

This is a Hebrew mode of expression denoting that he would be a peaceful prince. The tendency of his administration would be to restore and perpetuate peace. This expression is used to distinguish him from the mass of kings and princes who have delighted in conquest and blood. In contradistinction from all these, the Messiah would seek to promote universal concord, and the tendency of his reign would be to put an end to wars, and to restore harmony and order to the nations.

He preserves the peace, commands peace, nay, he creates peace, in his kingdom. He is our peace, and it is his peace that both keeps the hearts of his people and rules in them. Three areas of peace provided: Peace WITH God. Peace OF God. Peace FROM God.