



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Sermon Series

3 DECEMBER 2023

THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS

ISAIAH 9: 1-7

by Pastor Robin Liew



R O B I N W I L L I A M S

When all hope was lost, he invented it.

JAKOB the LIAR



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"JAKOB THE LIAR" ALAN ARKIN BOB BALABAN

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SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

Isaiah 9:1-7

PROCLAMATION v.1-2



Isaiah 9:1-7

1 Nevertheless, **that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever.** The land of Zebulun and Naphtali will be humbled, **but there will be a time in the future** when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, **will be filled with glory.**



Isaiah 9:1-7

2 The people who walk in darkness will see a great light.

For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine.



Isaiah 9:1-7

What God will do v.3-5

Isaiah 9:1-7

3 You will enlarge the nation of Israel, and its people will rejoice. They will rejoice before You as people rejoice at the harvest and like warriors dividing the plunder.

4 For You will break the yoke of their slavery and lift the heavy burden from their shoulders. You will break the oppressor's rod, just as You did when You destroyed the army of Midian.

Isaiah 9:1-7

5 The boots of the warrior and the uniforms bloodstained by war will all be burned. They will be fuel for the fire.

Isaiah 9:1-7

Promise and Expectation v.6-7

Isaiah 9:1-7

6 For a Child is born to us,
a Son is given to us.

The government will rest on His
shoulders. And He will be called:

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:1-7

7 His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of His ancestor David for all eternity.

The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

The HOPE of CHRISTMAS

- God send His Son **Galatians 4:4**
- Light overcoming darkness **John 1:5,9**
- Capernaum of Galilee **Matthew 4:12-17**
- Jesus' message **Mark 1:18**
- Jesus' manifesto **Luke 4: 18 - 19**

REFLECTION # 1

**Creation groans
to be freed from
death and decay,
sin and suffering
(Romans 8)**



REFLECTION # 2

**God has not
forgotten
nor forsaken
His creation**

(Isaiah 49:14-16)



REFLECTION # 3

**In Jesus, God
renews and
restores His
creation to its
fullness and
completeness**

(Eph 1: 18-22; Col 1:20;
Rev 21 & 22)



REFLECTION # 3

- **Personal Redemption (GOD LOVES ME!)**
- **Redemption of ALL THINGS (Eden 2.0 ++!)**

What are God's original purposes in and through His people? Is the Gospel capable of renewing the world and transforming the hearts of all human beings? Did God really mean for the ecclesia to be the focal point for the wholesale renewal of society?

The ecclesia that Jesus intended was specifically designed with built in, self-generative capacities and was made for nothing less than world-transforming, lasting, and yes, revolutionary impact.



Alan Hirsch
The Permanent Revolution

RESPONSE

**darkness and despair will not go on forever.
..... will be filled with glory.**

**And He will be called:
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

His government and its peace will never end.