The 3rd Sunday of Advent ~ Sunday, December 13, 2015 "For Unto Us: The Advent Visions of Isaiah ~ He Shall Be Named..." Isaiah 9:1-7

"So God created human beings in his image..." (Genesis 1:27)

We are the ______ of creation–individually created in God's own ______ and loved by Him.

"Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you. <u>I have called you by name</u>; you are mine." (Isaiah 43:1)

3 FOLD HOPE IN ISAIAH 9

#1. _____ in darkness.

"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. The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, <u>a light will shine</u>." (Isaiah 9:1-2)

"I am the <u>light of the world</u>. Whoever follows me <u>will not walk in darkness</u>, but will <u>have the light of life</u>." (John 8:12)

#2. _____ from suffering.

"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 9:4)

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and <u>I will give</u> you rest. <u>Take my yoke upon you</u>, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <u>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light</u>." (Matthew 11:28-30)

#3. The indescribable ______ of Jesus.

"For a <u>child is born to us</u>, a <u>son is given to us</u>. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

The great truths of this passage will fail to have their full effect on us unless they

are _____.

Both Jesus' _____ and _____ are described here.

Wonderful Counselor. Jesus is .

Wonderful = 'pele' =

In the Bible 'pele' often refers to the supernatural ______ of God.

"The Lord has done this, and it is <u>marvellous</u> in our eyes." (Psalm 118:23)

JESUS IS WONDERFULLY WONDERFUL IN 4 WAYS

• Jesus is wonderful in His _____.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:1-5)

• Jesus is wonderful in His _____.

"<u>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world</u>. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him." (John 1:9-11)

As the ______ of God, Jesus' life reflected all the divine attributes of God:

Like God, His love was:

Like God He was omniscient or _____.

Like God, He was omnipotent or _____.

• Jesus is wonderful in His _____.

"But to all who received him, who believed in his name, <u>he gave power to become</u> <u>children of God</u>, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the <u>Word became flesh and lived among us</u>, and we have seen his glory, the <u>glory as of a father's only son</u>, full of <u>grace and truth</u>." (John 1:11-14) "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

When Scripture refers to Jesus as 'Wonderful' Counselor, it means:

"For we do not have a high priest who is <u>unable to sympathize with our weaknesses</u>, but we have one <u>who has been tempted in every way</u>, just as we are, yet was without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

Is Jesus my Wonderful Counselor? Do I see Him as someone who understands, better than anyone else, what life is all about?

Mighty God. Jesus is _____.

Mighty = 'gibbor' =

"Who is this King of glory? <u>The Lord strong and mighty</u>, the Lord <u>mighty in</u> <u>battle.</u>" (Psalm 24:8)

"For by him <u>all things were created</u>: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <u>He is before all things, and in him all things hold together</u>...For in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell." (Colossians 1:15-16; 19)

These verses not only affirm the ______ of Jesus, they also tell us that He was the One who ______ all things.

Is Jesus my Mighty God? Do I trust that He's able to do what He has promised? Do I believe that He is bigger than all my problems?

Everlasting Father. Jesus is _____.

Everlasting =

"Before Abraham was born, I am!" (John 5:8)

3 REASONS WHY JESUS IS OUR EVERLASTING FATHER

• Jesus is our Everlasting Father because He has given us ____

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except

through me." (John 14:6)

"If anyone is in Christ, <u>there is a new creation</u>: everything old has passed away; see, <u>everything has become new</u>!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

• Jesus is our Everlasting Father because He ______ for us. "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

• Jesus is our Everlasting Father because He _____us. "My child, <u>don't reject the Lord's discipline</u>, and don't be upset when he corrects you. For the <u>Lord corrects those he loves</u>, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights." (Proverbs 3:11-12)

Is Jesus my Everlasting Father? Do you feel distanced from Him; orphaned or insecure? Or do you find security and rest in His comforting embrace?

Prince = _____.

Peace = 'shalom' =

3 AREAS OF SHALOM PEACE

• Peace with _____. This is the ______ dimension. "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." (Romans 5:1)

• Peace within _____. This takes place _____. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John14:27)

• Peace with _____. This is the ______ dimension. "And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness." (James 3:18)

"He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely for then his greatness will reach the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace." (Micah 5:4-5)

Is Jesus my Prince of Peace? Do you long to experience His shalom?