

“Prince of Peace”

Sounds good, doesn't it? For many, thinking of the birth of Jesus causes warm feelings—and we can use such feelings in these times!



A Worthy Title?

Some 700 years before Christ's birth, Isaiah prophesied that Messiah would be the “Prince of Peace.”¹

Is Jesus *worthy* of the title? If not, good feelings about His birth are really based on a fairy tale—a fib, a lie.

As we look around *outside*, the world has been *anything* but peaceful since His birth. As we look *inside*—if we are honest with ourselves—many would admit that there is not much peace there either.

Nevertheless, He *is* worthy of the title—and all who seek peace can rejoice in His birth!

Messiah - Mighty Warrior or Meek Lamb?

At His birth, Israel was looking for a warrior to rescue her from oppressive Rome. Jesus did not come as a conquering king, however, but as a *meek servant*—and most of Israel didn't recognize Him as Messiah.³

And the Lion and conquering King part? Stay tuned for His Second Coming!¹⁰

A Choice for Us

Each of us has a choice to make about Jesus. The bumper sticker may seem silly, but it is true:

No God, No Peace. Know God, Know Peace.

Jesus is the foretold Prince of Peace. He can give you a peace that even frightening times cannot disturb.

The question is, will you have Him as King of your *life*?

*Peace be to you and yours
this Holiday and New Year.*

¹ Isaiah 9:6 - “He shall be called ...Prince of Peace.” “Christ” is Greek for the Hebrew “Messiah”

² See, e.g., Psalm 2, Gen. 49:9, Rev. 5:5

³ John 1:11

⁴ Isaiah 53:1-12

⁵ John 3:17

⁶ Romans 3:23

⁷ Ephesian 2:8,9

⁸ John 1:29

⁹ John 1:12; 3:16

¹⁰ Rev. 19:11



The prophets did foresee the promised Messiah as a Lion and conquering King² But they *also* described another aspect of Him: Messiah would be a Suffering Servant.⁴

His first coming wasn't about making the world peaceful, but making peace between God and man.⁵

Why No Peace?

Why do we lack peace? Our moral failings, called *sin*, have made us adversaries to a Holy God.⁶

The Hebrew word for peace is “Shalom.” It means completeness, health, and wellbeing.

There is a rift between God and man that *cannot* be repaired by religion or all the good things we may do.⁷

Sin taints everything. Our sin affects our families, our city, and our nation. We're all guilty. We will answer to a Holy God. It's *that* bad.

Jesus came to give Himself as a sacrifice for our sins. He made peace possible between each of us and God. As Lamb of God,⁸ He conquered our worst enemy, sin. Through Him, God offers reconciliation to any who will believe in Jesus and receive Him as Lord.⁹



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