



Peace on Earth

December 9, 2018

An ancient [prophecy](#) pointing to the arrival of the [Prince of Peace](#)

- **When?** About 700 years before Jesus was born
- **Where?** In the Southern Kingdom (Judah)
- **Who?** King Ahaz and the people of God
- **What is happening?** War and oppression

The Prophecy of Isaiah

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ *For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.*

What to expect

- A conquering king!
- A neverending Kingdom!
- Peace on earth!

An important theological concept

Telescoping... a prophecy with multiple fulfillments over time

The [fulfillment of the prophecy](#)... The [Prince of Peace came](#)

- **When?** About 700 years after Isaiah's prophecy
- **Where?** In Bethlehem
- **Who?** Heavenly hosts, shepherds, and a baby
- **What is happening?** War and oppression

Luke 2:8-14

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

What happened

- A baby was born... and he grew up to be a teacher
- Thirty-three years later he died, rose again, and then left
- Two thousand years of unceasing war

Understanding the prophecy...

Jesus [did not come](#) to bring peace on earth.

He is [coming](#) to bring peace on earth.

Embracing the prophecy and fulfilment...

Jesus came to [offer](#) peace to the world.

Jesus is coming to [impose](#) peace on the world.