

The Names of Jesus

Part 1: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God

Isaiah 9:6 *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.*

Introduction

Isaiah's ministry c.740 - 681BC

The choice of seeking protection from Assyria, Egypt or God

The promised Messiah

Wonderful Counselor

OR

Wonder of a counselor

Wonder counselor

Consider counseling today, how does a counselor interact with a client?

How could Jesus be like a counselor?

Now consider the counsel coming from an advisor to a Prime Minister or President.

How is this different?

Consider the counsel coming from a wise leader (for example king Solomon)

How is this different?

Please read Micah 4:9: *Why do you now cry aloud— have you no king? Has your counselor perished, that pain seizes you like that of a woman in labor?*

Isaiah 28:29: *All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom.*

Matthew 13:54: *Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. “Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?” they asked.*

What do these passages tell us about the counsel of Jesus?

Think about the different types of "counsel"

What do you think is the one meant here?

So when we read Jesus' teaching in the Bible, knowing he is Wonderful Counselor, what should our response be?

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Mighty God

Before His Birth

Look at John 1:1-4, ***In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*** ² ***He was with God in the beginning.*** ³ ***Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.*** ⁴ ***In him was life, and that life was the light of men.***

Who is this Word?

Does this change our understanding of Jesus the man?

And at Colossians 1:15-16 ***He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*** ¹⁶ ***For by him all things were created: 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.***

So does this explain his name of Mighty God?

During earthly ministry

Jesus demonstrated power: Please read again Matthew 13:54 (above)

What did the people who saw Jesus see?

What did they think of him?

What would you have thought of him?

For each of these passages consider what Jesus has power over:

Luke 5:1-6 ***One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God,*** ² ***he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.*** ³ ***He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.*** ⁴ ***When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."*** ⁵ ***Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."*** ⁶ ***When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.***

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Matthew 9:18-26 *While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."*¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.²¹ She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."²² Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.²³ When Jesus entered the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd,²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.

Mark 5:1-7 *They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.*² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him.³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain.⁴ For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.⁷ He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!"

Mark 2:3-5 *Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them.*⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralysed man was lying on.⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

How does understanding Jesus' names help us understand Jesus?

How does that help us in our lives today?

Additional Personal study

Look at John's gospel for Jesus saying "I am" about himself.

Next time

Consider "Everlasting Father" and "Prince of Peace" for next month. How can the Son be the Everlasting Father? What does it mean to be Prince of Peace?