

"...He will be called:
Wonderful Counselor
Everlasting Father Mighty God
Prince of Peace!"

Isaiah 9:6

What a name!

When you are feeling less than confident, what strengthens you? Is there someone or some place, figurative or literal, you run to? Does the Christmas season move you to a position of strength or push you into a place of weakness?

The people Isaiah addresses are in trouble. A strong nation has already taken over most of their country and is pressing in hard to conquer this last little area. These poor people are feeling oppressed, afraid, unsure and insecure...but there's a reason for that...

ABOUT THEM:

The people to whom Isaiah is prophesying are God's chosen people, but their country has been infiltrated by cultures that worship multiple gods and practice idolatry. Sure enough, the people had compromised and mixed idolatry with their worship of the One True God. **Mighty God** had selected Israel to be "his chosen people" and he loved them too much to allow them to be deceived and controlled by false belief systems.

Since the beginning of time, **Mighty God** proved himself to be the One True God, the Most High God, the All-Powerful God. No other god was as strong and true as **Mighty God**. Since the beginning of time, he had warned against allowing other gods to come between him and those he loves.

But God gives everyone a choice. The people got to choose where they placed their affections and their faith. A closer look at their story reveals they were quite a self-focused people, quite twisted in their thinking. They made emotional decisions based on how they were feeling in the moment,

rather than stepping back, finding truth then taking action.

Instead of being intentional to follow God's way of living, they were subtly influenced by those neighbors worshiping false gods. Consequently, these faulty thinking patterns led to deceptive beliefs, defiant attitudes and generally unhealthy lifestyles, propelling them into a downward spiral.

They found themselves in a constant state of weakness, unable to pull themselves out.

ABOUT YOU:

- Are there times you notice yourself being influenced by the culture surrounding us?
- Do you ever feel mentally confused? Emotionally unstable? Even physically ill at times, due to stress?
- Are there times when you feel weak as you fight against the challenges of life?

If so, you are in need of **Mighty God**! And guess what: He is ready to rescue you!



ABOUT HIM:

Mighty God is relational. His greatest desire is to have a friendship with each of us. Friendship with God, the Father, begins in friendship with Jesus, the Son. (If you are not sure you have a friendship with Jesus, get in touch at www.ninaburgett.com. Friendship with Jesus will change your life.)

If you have accepted the friendship of Jesus, you have the power of **Mighty God** within you. To help us get to know him, God has given us his written word, the Bible. It is full of descriptors and stories about the character of God!

And the common thread: **God's intention toward us is always love.**

These are some of the words God has used to help us get to know him intimately:

"...true wisdom and power are found in God; counsel and understanding are his." (Job 12:13 NLT)

"...O Sovereign Lord, you have only begun to show your greatness and the strength of your hand to me...Is there any god in heaven or on earth who can perform such great and mighty deeds as you do?" (Deuteronomy 3:24 NLT)

"...everything in the world is yours--you created it all... Powerful is your arm! Strong is your hand! Your right hand is lifted high in glorious strength...it pleases you to make us strong." (Psalm 89:11-17 NLT)

"I am the Lord, the God of all the peoples of the world. Is anything too hard for me?" (Jeremiah 32:27 NLT)

"Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength." (1 Chronicles 29:12 NLT)

Mighty God is the Most High God. Many writers use the word, *Almighty* in reference to him. "All" rightfully refers to his completeness in power. Only the sovereign Lord God has the power to rule the world. Only the Lord Jesus Christ has the power to conquer death, giving the gift of eternal life to everyone who places their faith in him.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU AND ME?

Will you get better results if you do it yourself, or use a power tool?

- Cut a dowel rod — skill saw vs. hand saw?
- Recover chair seats — stapler vs. staple gun?
- Curl your hair — curling iron vs. round brush?
- Mix a cake — mixer vs. wooden spoon?
- Heat food quickly — microwave vs. campfire?

Using the proper tool gets the job done more efficiently. Some things cannot be accomplished without a power tool; our limited strength may not be enough. That's life: sometimes I simply cannot function in my own strength—I alone do not have the power. Can you relate?

Here's the Good News: *"I can't, but He can!"* (I don't know who originally made that statement, but obviously, it was someone who didn't have the power.)

Here's a promise from the One who has all the power:

"By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence...he has given us great and precious promises...that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires." (2 Peter 1:3-4 NLT)

Did you get that?

- In his divine power, God has already given us everything we need for life.

Getting Personal

Evaluate yourself: When you consider what action to take, what power do you typically pull from? What adjustments would you need to make in order to make it your default to take action in The Power of Mighty God? How would your everyday life look different if you were to intentionally take action in the power of Mighty God?

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES:

- Ephesians 1:18-21
- Ephesians 6:10
- Philippians 3:10
- Philippians 3:20-21
- Romans 8:26-27
- Romans 11:36
- Acts 1:8
- 2 Timothy 1:7