



With all the chaos happening in the world today, this passage of scripture keeps coming to mind. It's from the Book of Isaiah, and in examining the context of that book the times then were not dissimilar from today.

The Hebrew people were politically divided. They were fearful of invasion and could not come to agreement on what course to follow. The Assyrian Empire was perhaps the world's most bloodthirsty empire up to that time, and they were threatening their neighbors. They were known for their cruel executions and merciless crushing of entire cities.

The northern Kingdom of Israel and the southern Kingdom of Judah were no match for an Assyrian assault. Israel and her neighboring Syria were pressuring Judah to form a coalition against Assyria. Instead, the king of Judah reached out and made a deal with the Assyrians, which led to their subjugation. Eventually they all fell to that dreaded empire who then fell to the Babylonians, who then fell to the ...

The entire book of Isaiah is about how to be in this world yet not of it, and the key principle to that venture begins with this passage: *"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."*

The traditional interpretation is that Isaiah is prophesizing the birth of the Christ. That is so. The relevant question to ask is, "Where is the Christ born?" Was the Christ born only in Jesus, or is the Christ the term for the presence of God within each and every one of us?

***"For unto us a child is born."*** Our first awareness of the presence of God within is our spiritual birth. From then on, we perceive the world differently.

***"Unto us a Son is given."*** Divine sonship does not refer to gender but to the dominion of Spirit. This world is conceptual and in constant unrest and chaos. My Kingdom is unalterable and real, from everlasting to everlasting.

***“And the government shall be upon his shoulder.”*** That is us! We are the government. When we acknowledge that spiritual government is within us, we withdraw power of the government without. There is only one. There cannot be two governments in oneness. We must consciously withdraw authority from the material forms of power and realize that the I of my Being is the only power. My conscious realization of the presence of God constitutes a law of peace and harmony unto me and all who are in my awareness. This is the transformation point!

And then...

***“His name shall be called wonderful.”*** Full of wonder and full of joy, that is our experience.

***“Counselor.”*** The omniscience of love, the wisdom of forgiveness, the compassion of joy. There is no room in this consciousness for hate.

***“The Mighty God.”*** Omnipotent; oneness without opposite; the only; the secret relationship between the creator and creation. The secret word, I, that shall not be voiced except in the presence of the Divine.

***“Everlasting Father.”*** Our safety and sanctuary. “In my Father’s house are many mansions.” No one is excluded. All are welcome. We abide in Him as He abides in us.

***“The Prince of Peace.”*** This is what we become when we acknowledge the Christ within.

The whole book of Isaiah reveals how to live between two worlds. We find Isaiah asking us to reason spiritually, not from our conceptual mind. He dispels the notion of a rewarding and punishing God; *“though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white and snow.”* He tells us to let go of the mortal concept and cling to the spirit; *“Cease ye from man whose breath is in his nostrils, for wherein is he to be accounted of?”* He shows how we cannot spiritualize material concepts but see through them to the underlying spiritual reality. And he knows that living through the purity of Christ Consciousness brings peace. *“They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.”*