

the Promise of God's Presence

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel — Isaiah 7:14

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his
shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

— Isaiah 9:6

God's promise to be with us empowers us to live with
assurance and hope

Fears We Face
Promise of Grace
Pressing on in the Race

Some Details...

- Latter Half of the Kingdom period
- Internal and external challenges
- Spiritual compromise

Fears We Face

“When the house of David was told, ‘Syria is in league with Ephraim,’ the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind” — Isaiah 7:2

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Fears We Face

What challenges are you facing in your life right now?

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Fears We Face

What do you turn to in order to face your fears?

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Fears We Face

What do you turn to in order to face your fears?

What we look to in times of need often reveals what we truly trust in to save us

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Promise of Grace

God’s promise of grace is not merely a thing or a concept but is given to us *personally* in Immanuel

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Immanuel

1. God
2. Human
3. God-man with us

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This prophecy is a “two-stage fulfillment [with] an immediate but partial realization in Isaiah’s day and a later definitive one in the birth of Jesus Christ, who secure’s God’s throne forever”

— Reformation Study Bible

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Promise of Grace

“Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son” — Isaiah 7:14

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given” — Isaiah 9:6

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“For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given” — Isaiah 9:6

“And this giving is one of the chief articles of our faith...” —
John Calvin

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God gives to us not on the basis of our faithfulness but upon
His covenant faithfulness

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God’s promise to give a sign tells us that rather than merely
removing hardships in our lives, He steps into them with us

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The fulfillment of God’s promise is found in Jesus who
“emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being
born in the likeness of men. And being found in human
form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the
point of death, even death on a cross” — Philippians 2:7-8

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Pressing on in the Race

“...in the gospel we find One who not only knows the right answer or can string together the right words to imitate empathy, but One who is himself a ‘man of sorrows and acquainted with grief’ (Is. 53:3), One who ‘became flesh and dwelt among us’ (John 1:14), and One who doesn’t only offer wise life advice but dies in our place (1 Pet. 3:18). AI can inform us about diseases, but Christ has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows’ (Is. 53:4). AI is a word that can instruct flesh, but it cannot become flesh...

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...it cannot suffer with us; it cannot die for us. And precisely because of this incapacity, AI does us an inestimable service: It shows us the uniqueness, preciousness, and incomparable wonder of a God who became fully human and bore our sufferings to die in our place” — Chris Watkin

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God is present, not depending on the season, but in every season

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God is present, not depending on the season, but in every season

We trust not in our circumstances, but in God’s nearness

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God is present, not depending on the season, but in every season

We trust not in our circumstances, but in God’s nearness

We belong to him, not when we finally get to heaven, but here and now

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