



The King is Coming

Christmas Eve Morning Service

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp - Reston Bible Church - December 24th, 2023



King Saul (1878) Ernst Josephson & David playing Harp for King Saul (1885) by Julius Kronberg.
Image credits: Wikipedia Commons



King David Playing the Harp
(1622) by Gerard van Honthorst



King Solomon in his Palace

Image credit: Rendering



Alexander the Great in the Temple of Jerusalem
1736 Sebastiano Conca



King Herod the Great

rendering

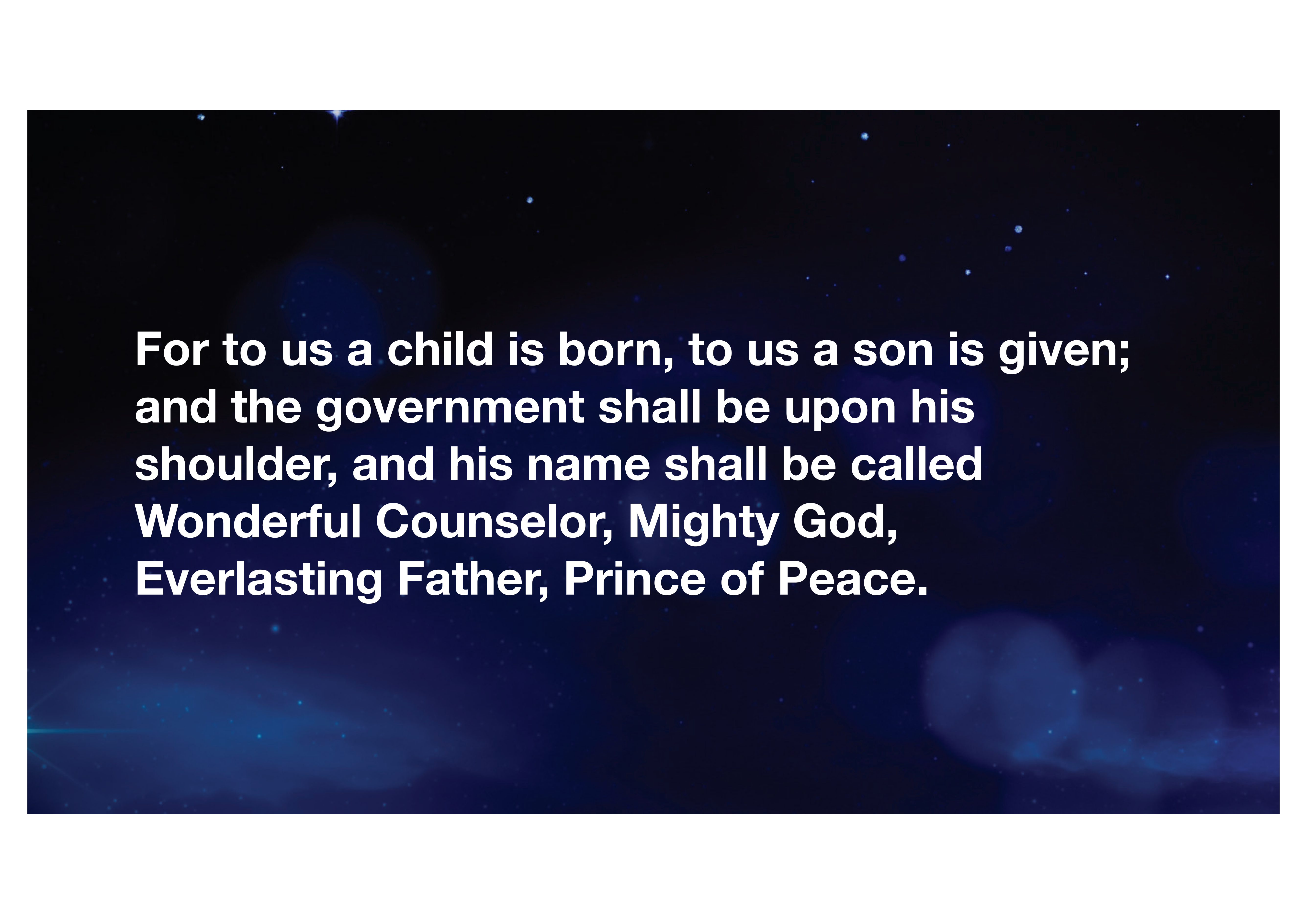
For the Lord spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: “Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread... I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him.

Isaiah 8:11-13, 17 ESV



**The people who walked in darkness have
seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land
of deep darkness, on them has light shone.**

Isaiah 9:2 ESV



**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.**

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:6-7 ESV

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

Isaiah 53:4-7 ESV

...on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

Isaiah 9:7 ESV

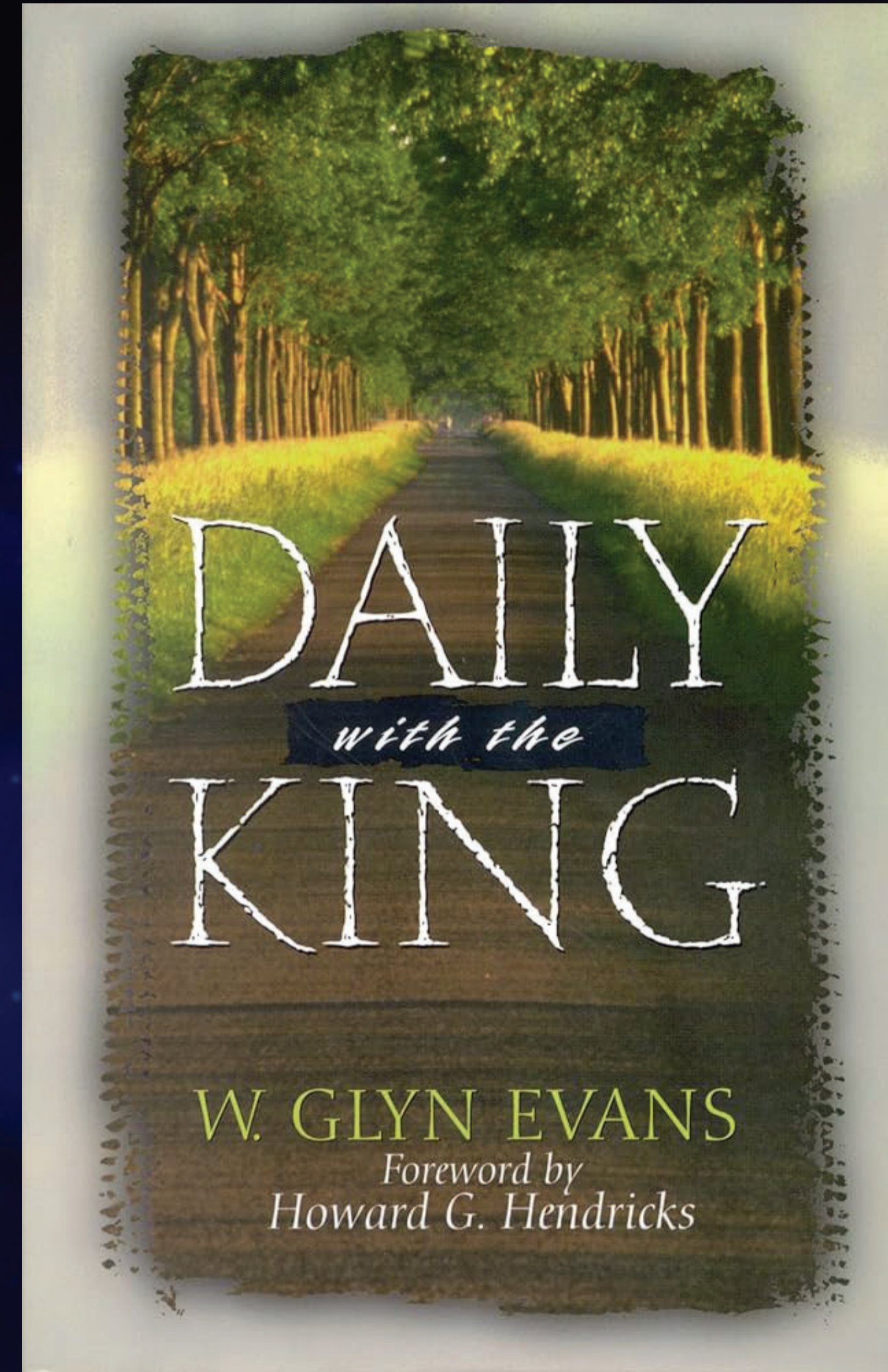
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Isaiah 53:7 ESV

1. There is a Gap Between God's Plan and Mine

**For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the
Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the
earth, so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

Isaiah 55:8-9 ESV



W. Glyn Evans

former theology prof at Grad School of Wheaton

“God must reserve for Himself the right of the initiative, the right to break into my life without question or explanation. That shattering phone call, that disturbing letter may indeed be the first stage of God’s interruption in my life... Since God does the initiating, He must be responsible for the consequences.”

*W. Glyn Evans
Grad School of Wheaton*

2. God's Plan is Always Better

“For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

Jeremiah 29:10-12 ESV

3. Waiting on the Lord

**I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding his face
from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in
him.**

Isaiah 8:17 ESV

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

Hebrews 11:13 ESV

“In prayer, we are unaware that God is in action and that when the circumstances are ready, when others are in the right place, and when our hearts are prepared, He will all us into the action. Waiting in prayer is a disciplined refusal to act before God acts.”

Eugene Peterson

Understand:

There is a **Gap** Between God's Plan
and Mine

God's Plan is Always **Better**

Waiting on the **Lord**