

## Exegetical Notes – Isaiah 11:1-9

Prepared by Charles H. Jensen for Cornerstone Fellowship

101 Kylies Road, Coatesville, PA 19320

610-384-1375

[charleshjensen@aol.com](mailto:charleshjensen@aol.com)

These words were written at the end of the Assyrian conquest of Judah. The city of Jerusalem was in ruins. Isaiah promises that YHWH will send a Messiah, an anointed one to deliver His people. That anointed one is Jesus!

### Verses 1-3a

***A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.***

**<sup>2</sup>*The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—***

**<sup>3</sup>*and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.***

- At a time when all hope was lost in the nation of Judah, YHWH promised to send an anointed one, a Messiah.
- This anointed person would come from the line of King David. “Jesse” is the father of King David.
- The Holy Spirit of God would rest upon this person so that he had “wisdom” and “understanding.” He would understand the ways of YHWH and YHWH’s plans. He would be able to give counsel to others, and he would have the power to work the purposes of YHWH. This person would respect and love YHWH. YHWH would look on him with pleasure.
- Jesus is this anointed one.

### Verses 3b-5

***He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;***

**<sup>4</sup>*but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.***

***He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.***

**<sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.**

- This anointed one will not be misled by what his eyes see or his ears hear. He will not be misled by circumstances but will see clearly to the heart of all things. He will judge all things rightly.
- When he opens his mouth, he will speak truth, and that truth will destroy those who rebel against YHWH and who refuse to follow His ways.
- This anointed one will be clothed in Righteousness and Faithfulness.

**Verses 6-9**

**<sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.**

**<sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.**

**<sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.**

**<sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.**

- When the anointed one, the Messiah, Jesus, restores the Kingdom of God to its order as YHWH intended at creation, all things will be at peace. The wild animals which today prey on other animals will no longer do so. Helpless children will not need to fear. Nothing will hurt or destroy anything or anyone else, for the God-intended order of the universe will be restored.
- In the Messiah's kingdom, the earth will be at peace with YHWH. Everyone there will know the Lord. "The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed" (see Romans 8:19).

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