

## A Question about Isaiah 9:6

### Commentary for November 1, 2019 — What Did Isaiah Mean?

**Inquiry:** Maybe you could do an article about Isaiah 9:6 where Jesus is the everlasting Father. Which shows he is God. Most only think of him as the Son of God and not God, by doing this they have 2 Gods, one Son and One Father. Whereas he is God and his name is Jesus.

Thanks, *George* [a pseudonym],

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**My public response:** George, let me quote Isaiah 9:6 from the King James Version:

**“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, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

First, these are titles of the child even though the word “name” is used in the Hebrew text. He can use those titles because Christ represents His Father and is given those titles as Isaiah says. Another name for Jesus is Immanuel in Isaiah 7:14 and 8:8, spelled Emmanuel in Matthew 1:23. The titles in Isaiah 9:6 are not used anywhere in the New Testament.

Christ will be given another name that is above every other name (Ephesians 1:21, Hebrews 1:4). God gave Christ another name among the others He already had been given:

**“Wherefore God also has highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.**

• *Philippians 2:9–10*

We can know what that name is and yes, it applies to Christ, Him alone, and not as part of an amalgamated binitarian or trinitarian godhead. The name is YHWH (or Yahweh, if you wish):

**“Then shall YHWH go forth, and fight against those nations ... And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley ... and YHWH my God shall come, and all the saints with you.”**

• *Zechariah 14:3–5*

We know from Acts 1:11–12 that Christ will be the one returning to the Mount of Olives with His saints, not God the Father. Christ is designated with the name YHWH all through Zechariah chapter 14, as YHWH’s agent, acting in His name.

Specific to your question about the phrase **“everlasting Father”** in Isaiah 9:6, the Hebrew term has nothing to do with being “everlasting” or “eternal,” or “eternity.” The phrase **“everlasting Father”** in Hebrew is a compound construct of “Father” and “beyond.” It does not mean eternity. Most lexicons I read confirm this, contrary to the King James Version.

The Old Testament term for long duration of time is *olam*, or eon. It is not used in Isaiah 9:6.

We are told that the Son of God **“made the eons”** (Hebrews 1:2). “Worlds” is a gross KJV mistranslation of the Greek term. Every eon (and eons plural) have a beginning and an end.<sup>1</sup>

The apostle Paul tells us who is God in 1 Corinthians 8:5-7:

<sup>5</sup> **“For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) <sup>6</sup> But to us [us believers!] there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.**

<sup>7</sup> **Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge.”**

Paul sums up their relationship in the Old Testament, and clarifies the national titles of Christ in Isaiah 9:6. In verse 7 Paul says the knowledge given in verse 6 **“is not in every man”**: that there is ONE God, and He is the Father. Christ Jesus is not equal to His God. Paul was writing to his pagan converts — very recent polytheists. If there were more than one God, this would have been the moment for Paul to tell them.

Paul later tells us **“There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”** (1 Timothy 2:5). Jesus Himself told Mary Magdalene that He has a God:

**“Jesus said unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to MY God, and your God.”**

• **John 20:17**

Jesus Christ said this just before He ascended to present Himself and put His blood on the altar in the presence of God (Hebrews 9:13–14, 21–24; 1 Peter 1:2). According to John 20:17, Jesus had a God. Ephesians 1:3 and Colossians 1:3 assert the same thoughts as the apostle Peter writes in 1 Peter 1:3:

**“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope [how?] by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”**

Let me note that, the phrase “God the Son” occurs nowhere in the New Testament. Christ was a created “El,” singular, the only-begotten Son of God (Colossians 1:15–17; Revelation 3:14).<sup>2</sup> The apostle John tells us we all will become Sons (Children) of God: **“We shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is”** (1 John 3:2–3). We will be *Elohim*, as Christ is now.

Since His resurrection Christ has been given full authority to use the personal name of YHWH, the name that is above every name. He is the agent of God the Father who is YHWH. Christ will return using the name of YHWH (Zechariah 14:3-5). Christ is not part of a trinity. He was the first creation of God through Whom everything and everyone else was created.

George, I hope this is helpful.

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<sup>1</sup> See Dr. Martin’s article, [“The Doctrine of the Ages.”](#)

<sup>2</sup> Elohim is singular or plural depending on the verb. Other sons of God were created through Christ. See [“Elohim and the Son of God, Part 1.”](#)