TO US A SON IS GIVEN

Isaiah 9:1-7

Key Verse: 6

1. Why might the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali suffer from gloom and distress given their geographical location and the recent Assyrian Invasion ? (1) What great hope for the Nation of Israel might have seemed impossible now possible? (2 Samuel 7:12,13) Has anything in your life not gone according to your plan ended in great disappointment ? (1b-5) How would God honour Galilee in the future? What does this teach us about the importance of Hope? About the future honour God has promised to bestow upon us?
2. (Read verse 6a.) How does the news of a new-born child give people hope? Who is this child? (6b) Why did God come to the world in this way? (Lk2:7; Jn1:14) How did this express God’s love and way of salvation? (Jn3:16)
3. What does it mean that “the government will be on his shoulders''? (Mt2:2; Jn 18:37) Read verse 6b. Think about the meaning of each title here and how Jesus fulfils each one. (“Wonderful Counsellor”: Jn 4:1-26; 8:1-11; “Mighty God”: Jn1:1-3; Mk 4:41; Lk 7:16; “Everlasting Father”: Heb 13:8; Mk 2:5; “Prince of Peace”: Lk 2:14; Jn 14:27; Eph 2:14)
4. Is this prophecy completely fulfilled in Jesus coming as a baby in the manger 2000 years ago? How is the kingdom of God manifested now? Luke 17:20-21 What is our messianic hope now? How can we be sure of this Hope? (7)