

Isaiah 9:2-7

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

² [a] The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Psalm 96 (NRSV)

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song;

 sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² Sing to the LORD, bless his name;

 tell of his salvation from day to day.

³ Declare his glory among the nations,

 his marvellous works among all the peoples.

⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

 he is to be revered above all gods.

⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are idols,

 but the LORD made the heavens.

⁶ Honour and majesty are before him;

 strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,

 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

 bring an offering, and come into his courts.

⁹ Worship the LORD in holy splendour;

 tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰ Say among the nations, 'The LORD is king!

 The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity.'

¹¹ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

 let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

¹² let the field exult, and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

¹³ before the LORD; for he is coming,

 for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,

 and the peoples with his truth.

Titus 2:11-14 (NRSV)

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all,^[a] ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour,^[b] Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.