

Everlasting Father
Isaiah 9:6

Introduction

1. This term can create some confusion.
 - A. Not that I don't believe Jesus is Eternal.
 - B. To refer to Jesus as Father.
2. In our Trinitarian understanding of the Bible.
 - A. God the Father, God the Son, God the H.S. (Trinity)
 - B. What is the message that Isaiah is wanting us to receive.
 - 1) He is not saying this son will replace our Heavenly Father.
3. Scripture translation over the years
 - A. Vulgate (4th century Latin Translation).
 - B. Renders Is. 9:6 – “Father of the future age”.
 - C. John Gill translation – “The Father of eternity”
4. Jesus and God are not in competition for the same position.
 - A. God the Father of all creation (including you).
 - 1) Jesus eternal existence
 - B. God's plan was for man to know God (Phil. 2:6-8).
5. Isaiah is describing the character & role of the Messiah
 - A. In Hebrew royal language, titles describe what a king is like for his people.

Question – In what sense is Jesus “Father-like” to His people?

Jesus is the Father of a New People.

1. O.T. concept of a Father.
 - A. It is one that creates, originates, or brings forth a people.
2. Isaiah was looking into the future.
 - A. Jesus is the Father of the age to come.
 - 1) He would bring forth a new creation & family.
 - B. How does this happen.
 - 1) New birth
 - 2) New identity
 - 3) New life

Jesus guards His people the way a father watches over his children.

1. Isaiah's reference to the Messiah being the everlasting father he is saying.
 - A. Jesus will embody fatherly care for His people.
 - B. Jesus isn't distant or detached from His people.
 - 1) He is near like a father is there for his children.
 - 2) Jesus is our intercessor between heaven and earth.
 - 3) He stands on our behalf with God.

In Jesus, the compassion of the Father comes into full view.

1. The gospels tell us Jesus was moved with compassion.
2. Compassion – suffering with another; painful sympathy; a sensation of sorrow excited by the distress or misfortunes of another.
3. Jesus fatherly role for His people.
 - A. His compassion for His people.
 - 1) If we hurt, Jesus hurts.
 - 2) If we are faced with hard times, Jesus walks through those hard times with us.
 - 3) If you mess up, Jesus doesn't abandon you.

- *Compassion moves us to serve others.*
- *Compassion leads us to action.*

Jesus, moved by deep compassion and obedient to His Father's will, became the Father of a new people and the One who saves us from our sins.

Jesus reveals to the world the perfect love of a Heavenly Father.

1. Jesus is not the Father.
 - A. He is the perfect image of Father.

When you receive Jesus, you have received the Father.