**Isaiah 11:9 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. 3His delight *is* in the fear of the Lord, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; 4But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den. 9They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea.**

 We’re in Isaiah 11 tonight. Many reserve Isaiah 11 for Christmas. I want to draw it out tonight because, once again, Isaiah, 700 years before Jesus, is prophesying with accuracy the coming Kingdom of Jesus. We have this hope every morning as we wake and every evening as we lie down, not just Christmas…. Jesus is the hope Isaiah longed to see… and we have Him in our lives.

 In verse 1, we read - **There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.** In Matthew 1:1-12, we read The book of the genealogyof Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: **2**Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. **3**Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. **4**Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. **5**Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, **6**and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her *who had been the wife* of Uriah. **7**Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. **8**Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. **9**Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. **10**Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. **11**Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. **12**And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. **13**Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. **14**Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. **15**Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. **16**And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. Just as Isaiah wrote, inspired by God, Jesus is the branch springing from the Root of Jesse.

 In verse 2, we read **2The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.** The Spirit of the Lord… the Holy Spirit shall rest upon Jesus giving Him wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and fear of the Lord. Proverbs 9:10, given by Solomon, the man who prayed for Wisdom from God, tells us, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” The Son shall have the Spirit rest upon Him, in respect and love of the Father. The Trinity is in full view here.

 Verse 3 **His delight *is* in the fear of the Lord, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears.** John 8:28- Then Jesus said to them, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.” Jesus was never alone. The Trinity is One – in John 10:30, Jesus says – I and the Father are One. Jesus saw with perfect Divine eyes the people He encountered, just as God sees. John 8:26 - I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him.” Jesus judgement is perfectly fair and true.

 Verses 4-5 **But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.** John 12:47-49And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.” Jesus is the Word – Rejection of Him, rejection of the Living Word of God condemns the unbeliever. The rod of Jesus mouth, His very breath, will slay the wicked.

 In verses 6-9, we get a vision of the Peace that will come in Jesus ultimate Kingdom. We read **“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den. 9They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea.** What a message of hope!! We are to pursue peace while here on Earth. Even in the midst of trials, we seek peace. Romans 14:17 says for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. In verse 19, we’re told, Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. We do not now have full knowledge of the Lord, but we will. For now, we pursue the things that bring peace to our brothers and sisters. Anything that brings disunity is not of Christ. Jesus will restore the peace that has not existed since the Garden of Eden. Revelation 22:1-3 says, “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

 Jesus is the fulfillment of Isaiah 11. Christ gives to us peace by sending the Holy Spirit and gives us promise through His Holy Word. Matthew 19:28-29 gives us a promise straight from the Lord - So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life”. What a beautiful promise – living with Jesus in eternity! In the regeneration, our faithfulness will be rewarded. The very Prince of Peace tells us so.