Dennis R. Wiles First Baptist Arlington December 8, 2024

## **ADVENT 2024**

Together . . . in the Light

December 1 - 31, 2024

Preaching Voice: Evangelist

## A Light Has Dawned! Isaiah 9:1-7

Theme for 2024: Together

Theme for Advent 2024: Together . . . in the Light

Sermon Title: A Light Has Dawned!

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

CONTEXT: Ahaz was King in Judah. He was a wicked king who chose to distrust God and decided to forge an alliance with Assyria. He also desecrated the land through his willingness to allow pagan worship practices to exist in Judah. His reign was marked by darkness across Judah. And—Judah faced the reality of both the threat of Israel and the tragic defeat of Israel at the hands of the Assyrians. The people of Judah were fearful for their very existence.

CHILD: What was God's answer to Judah's dilemma? A child! Already mentioned in Isaiah 7:14, God promised a child would be born, a son would be given—and God's reign would be established forever!

CONTEXT: We now live in a new era. The light has dawned! The Messiah has come. He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!

CHRISTMAS: Christmas is the season when we re-visit the great truth that God has kept His promise! We also celebrate the truth that the future holds great promise for His people!