

---

---

## Christmas Expectation vs. Christmas Reality

12-17-23

Isaiah 9:1-6

---

---

Introduction: Christmas is a special time of year and filled with expectation.

1. We long for "It's a Wonderful Life," "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street," or a Norman Rockwell Christmas.
2. We often experience "Home Alone," "National Lampoon Christmas Vacation," or "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."
3. It can be incredibly frustrating.
4. We face this same reality 365 days a year. We long for happily ever after but live with the reality of unfulfilled expectations.
5. Why is that? Is there an answer?
6. Yes, His name is Jesus, we celebrate His birth at Christmas because He is the Prince of Peace.
7. To experience His peace, we need to take two steps.

### I. Surrender To The Prince Of Peace

#### A. Definition

- External Peace
- Internal Peace
- Wholeness
- Safety/Wellbeing

#### B. Reality

- Design

– Experience

– Invitation

### II. Seek His Will

#### A. The Origin Of Conflict

#### B. The Answer To Conflict

#### C. Security

Conclusion: At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

1. Jesus offers us all peace.
2. Will you accept that peace today?