Jesus: Our Mighty God

The words of the prophet Isaiah offered hope during one of the lowest points in the history of Israel. As God's people faced exile, Isaiah identified their Messiah as "Mighty God;" the one coming to save them would be more powerful than the enemies that persecuted them. We now know that the Messiah Isaiah prophesied about is Jesus Christ. As we look toward Christmas, we dig into Scripture to discover what the title "Mighty God" communicates to us about Jesus. Together we examine Christ's character and deeds and explore how his presence as a helpless baby displayed the awesomeness of God's power. We discover how the promise of our "Mighty God" continues to give us hope as we anticipate Christ's return.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What does the adjective "mighty" communicate to you?
- Which earthly things or people do you consider mighty?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Jesus: Our Mighty God

READ Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, Revelation 5:6,11-14

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- At the end of segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss how our mighty God became small for us by being born into the world as a helpless baby to show his love and care for us. Darrell says, "It takes a mighty God to become very small." Have you ever considered that God would need to be *mighty* to meet each of us where we are? What does it mean to you that our mighty God would come to us in our littleness?
- As segment 2 begins, Scott and Darrell read verses from Psalms that reflect the power and might of God. Some verses even compare powers and forces in this world to the might of God and declare God mightier. If you were to write a similar Psalm, how would you describe God's power and might? What images or comparisons would you include?
- Have you ever had an experience that expanded your understanding of how big and transcending God is?
- Many people failed to recognize Jesus as the Messiah because they were looking for a political conqueror. But God, in his wisdom and power, conquered the more powerful enemy instead: sin and death. In your opinion, do we, like the people in Jesus' day, have expectations for his second coming that we might need to shed? Why or why not?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

<u>Psalm 8, Psalm 113, Psalm 24:8, Psalm 29:4, Psalm 68:33, Psalm 89:8, Psalm 93:4, Psalm 96:4, Psalm 150:2</u>, Mark 15:37-39

CONCLUSION

Reflecting on how God works in our lives, Darrell said, "God will often answer a situation, in his wisdom and power, in a way different than we expect; and that we need to submit to, and trust his methods in that, because it might not materialize the way we expect."

What situations in your life or in today's world do you long for God to heal and establish peace or justice? Close your time of reflection in prayer. Give thanks for the ways God has shown you his might in the past, pray for the situations in which you'd like our mighty God to intervene, and ask him for a heart that trusts his ways.

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