



Isaiah 9:6-7

*For a child is born to us; a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, **Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace. (NLT)*

Today, we turn our attention to the name *Everlasting Father*. This name perhaps takes us another step into the mystery of the incarnation – God becoming flesh. To wrap our thoughts around this name, I have chosen two familiar Christmas carols: *What Child Is This?* and *God Rest, Ye Merry Gentlemen*.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

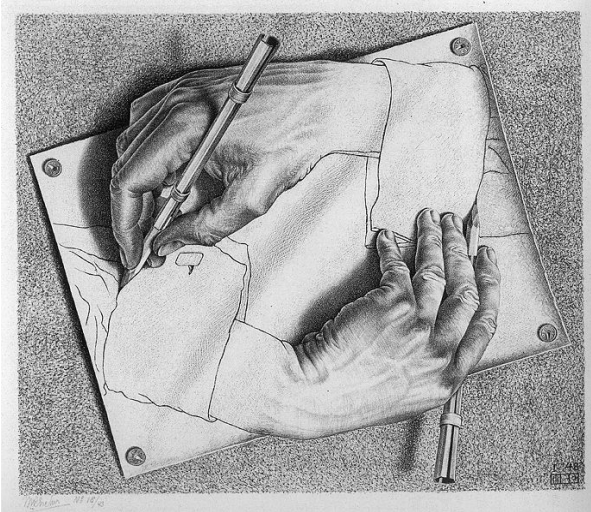
The promised Messiah is a **Son** who is also the Everlasting Father? What's up with this?

"Everlasting" means that which **transcends** time, is **outside** time, is **above** and **beyond** time.

John 1:1-4, In the beginning there was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made by him, and nothing was made without him. In him there was life, and that life was the light of all people. (NCV)

"Father" ushers us into the mystery of the divine **Trinity**.

John 14:6-11, *Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. (NLT)*



John 10:30
The Father and I are one.
(NLT)

John 17:21
You and I are one—you are in me, Father, and I am in you. (NLT)

OH, TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY

All humans long for the security and significance that was lost as the result of the fall of our father Adam.

By coming as a Father, Jesus offers us **restoration** and **reconciliation**.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21, *All of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ...For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer*

counting people's sins against them....So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"
(NLT)

The gift of the Everlasting Father is that we can become **members** of God's family.

Galatians 4:4-7, But when the right time came, God sent his Son who was born of a woman...so we could become his children. Since you are God's children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, and the Spirit cries out, "Father." So now you are not a slave; you are God's child, and God will give you the blessing he promised, because you are his child. (NCV)

He is a **Father forever**.

1 John 3:1-3 See how much the Father has loved us! His love is so great that we are called God's children—and in fact, we are his children...It is not yet clear what we shall become. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is.
(GNT)

**TO SAVE US ALL FROM SATAN'S POWER WHEN WE
HAD GONE ASTRAY...OH TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND
JOY!**