

Advent Attitude

His Coming (Latin): Christmas traditionally 1st, Personal, 2nd

title: Who was, and Who is, and Who is to come (Rev 1:4, 8, 4:8, 11:17)

our Message...

He was God with us - He came to Reveal the Father (Love)

(Mt 1:20-23 Joseph) ²⁰But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." ²²So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

He is God in us - Personal, Familial Relationship with/in the Trinity (Cross)

(Jn 15:4) ⁴"Abide in Me, and I in you." (Jn 14:2, 23)

He will be God on Earth - He is Coming to Stay

- He is Coming to Reign

(Lk 1:31-33 Mary) ³¹"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³²"He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³"And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

(Isa 9:6-7) ⁶For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

- He is Coming to establish Peace (Is 9:7)

(Lk 2:10-14 shepherds) ¹⁰Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²"And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (or men of goodwill)

1. NT Focus overwhelmingly on His Coming - more about Earth than Heaven

(Mt 24:29-31, 36-44, 25:13, 26:64, Mk 8:38, Ac 1:9-11, 1 Cor 4:5, 11:26, 15:23, 52, Col 3:4, 1 Th 2:19, 4:14-5:4, 23, 2 Th 1:9-10, 2:1-12, Heb 10:37, Ja 5:7-8, 2 Pe 3:4-12, 1 Jn 2:28, 3:2, Ju 14-15, Rev 1:7, 3:11, 16:15, 22:7, 12, 17, 20)

temptation to focus more on us than Him - all subsets of His Coming

Rapture (1 Th 4:14-17, 2 Th 2:1, Mt 24:29-31, 1 Cor 15:52) - not going, joining Him

Armageddon (place Rev 16:16) - valley of Megiddo, gathers/destroys nation's army

Antichrist

(2Th 2:8) And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

2. His Peace is the Answer to all our concerns

(Mt 10:34) Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

contradiction of Lk 2:14 ?

(Jn 14:27) Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

His Peace is First Internal

(Jn 16:33) These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.

point of conflict - guarding His Peace in us against spirit of world!

- advancing His Peace in the world (Mt 11:12, Mt 6:10, 1 Ti 2:1-2)

war for peace by abiding in peace, and through prayer

World values Peace at Christmas - we must Display it is only found in Christ

3. He will Come Again to bring Peace on Earth (after brief, terrible conflict)

(Ro 16:20) And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.

(Isa 2:4) He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Earth Eagerly awaits this, and so should we

(Ro 8:19-21) ¹⁹For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

(Heb 9:28) To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Joy to the World - most published Christmas hymn - Isaac Watts 1719 (Dad's challenge)

based on Ps 98 with NT perspective - about His Second Coming