

Local Group Meeting – “The Advent Season”

Hillcrest Bible Church ❖ ❖ ❖ December 2024

*“Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.”*

*“Born Thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne.”*

Charles Wesley, 1744

Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ. This birth was promised shortly after God created the heavens and the earth. Adam, and therefore all mankind, fell into sin and death. All was cursed, but God promised the way of blessing. God’s promise was fulfilled four thousand years later with the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. A simple promise from God – with a lengthy wait for mankind. The birth was miraculous, the Child was the God-Man, and His mission was to serve as Savior and reign as King. Salvation was accomplished at the cross by the death and resurrection of Jesus, but the promise of His earthly kingdom awaits His second coming. Jesus, the Savior-King, is coming again to fulfill all the aspects of God’s promises made in the Old and New Testaments. This kingdom will be for a thousand years – and then forever in the New Heavens and New Earth. Once again this proves that the God who promises is the God who provides. And the way of His provision is reason for worshiping only Him. Christmas is a time to remember and praise the Lord for all He has done – and await all that He will do! All for the eternal glory of God!

The Advent Season – “The Promise of the Coming”

1. **PROMISE** → The Promise of the Seed of the Woman

Genesis 3:14-15 creation-fall-curse-promise – for faith and hope in the coming seed

SEED = means one and many – “one” is Jesus and “many” are the descendants

Genesis 15:6 justification by faith

Genesis 22:9-19 the promise of salvation – the LORD will provide the substitute

YAHWEH-jireh = the LORD will provide” – near for Isaac – far for all in Christ

2 Samuel 7:12-13 the promise of kingdom – the LORD will provide the son-King

The Advent Season – “The Coming of the Savior”

2. **SALVATION** → The Promise of the Savior

Matthew 1:18-25 Jesus will save His people from their sins

Matthew 21:9 “Hosanna = “save now, help now” – the King is David’s son

Psalms 118:19-29 “my salvation” (21) – “do save” (25)

The Advent Season – “The Coming of the King”

3. KINGDOM → The Promise of the King

Luke 1:26-38 Jesus will establish his authority and dominion forever

Isaiah 9:6-7 “no end of His government” – “on David’s throne” – “over his kingdom”

The Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the stated meaning of the passage?
- 2) How does this passage relate to the promise of the coming?
- 3) How did Jesus Christ fulfill this prophecy – actively or passively?
- 4) How does this prophecy and its fulfillment affect your life and your worship?

The Schedule

December 4th “The Promise of the Coming”

December 11th “The Coming of the Savior”

December 18st “the Coming of the King”

The Memory Verse

Isaiah 9:6:

*“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
and the government will rest on His shoulders;
and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”*
