



# ADVENT

The Coming Glory of God





**“The infinite God becoming a few pounds of human – could not be allowed to just happen; people needed to be prepared for it.”**

**- J. John**

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“We are made to find our deepest joy and greatest satisfaction not from whatever we want, but by surrendering to God’s will.”

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My pastoral hope is that today's message moves us  
from knowing a story to knowing Jesus.

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# Key Texts:

Matthew 1:21

Luke 1:30-38, 2:10-14

1 Peter 1:10-12, 18-21

Philippians 2:5-11

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Advent means “arrival”  
or “coming”.

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# Advent's Three Directions:

1. Advent looks BACKWARD.
  - Jesus was born during the “silent years”.
  - Jesus’ ancestry reminds us that we are part of a story much bigger than we understand.
  - Jesus’ ancestry reminds us that God’s grace is for all.

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# Advent's Three Directions:

1. Advent looks BACKWARD.
  - Jesus' arrival is a re-establishing of humanity's intimacy with God and our partnership in His purpose. (*Genesis 1:26-28, 4:26; Exodus 25:8; Acts 17:24-28; Ephesians 2:22; John 17:24*)

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - To help us experience the Christ that lives within us, let's look at some of the characters in the story of Jesus' birth.

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - As we reflect upon these men and women, each character offers us an opportunity to deepen, enrich, and ordain our purpose and relationship with Jesus.

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - The way each of these characters respond to the arrival of Jesus, can assist us in our spiritual formation, function, and fruitfulness.

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.

– Joseph (*Matthew 1:18-25*)

– **Honor, Obedience, and Loyalty**

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - Mary (*Luke 1:38*)
  - **Meek Receptivity**
  - Our “yes” to God changes lives.

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## Advent's Three Directions:

### 2. Advent looks INWARD.

- Shepherds (*Luke 2:8-17*)
- The “nobodys” of society.
- The shepherds remind us that God chooses the least likely. (Moses, David, Joseph, Gideon, etc.)

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - Shepherds (*Luke 2:8-17*)
  - Their response:
    - Do something. (*Luke 2:15*)
    - See Something. (*Luke 2:16*)
    - Say Something. (*Luke 2:17*)

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# Advent's Three Directions:

2. Advent looks INWARD.
  - Shepherds (*Luke 2:8-17*)
  - **Humble Seekers and Messengers**

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# How can we participate with this message?

1. Believe the best about others.
2. Welcome what God is doing in you as you partner with others for prayer, encouragement, and feedback.
3. Pursue God and share your testimony with others.

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