

**Advent • Week 3**  
**A Proper Perspective On Christmas**  
**“No Place for Him”**

Before time there was God. Before time and before creation there was a plan. Creation began the unfolding of the plan. The plan was one of salvation. Salvation of the creation by the creator. The purpose of the plan was to magnify the glory of God for the delight and joy of the redeemed. All of history is the history of redemption. Redemptive history had a beginning and has an end. The birth of Jesus is the beginning of the end. Christmas is the story of the beginning of the end.

*“A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes - and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent”*

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

Isaiah 9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Matthew 1:21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name **Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**”

“In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus  
that all the world should be registered.”

Genesis 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**”

Genesis 17:19 God said, “No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and **you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.**

Genesis 28:13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, **“I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac.** The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.

Genesis 28:14 Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, **and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.**

Genesis 49:10 **The scepter shall not depart from Judah,** nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and **to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.**

2Samuel 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. **Your throne shall be established forever.”**

Psalms 89:35 Once for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.

Psalms 89:36 His offspring shall endure forever, his throne as long as the sun before me.

Jeremiah 23:5 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will **raise up for David a righteous Branch,** and **he shall reign as king** and deal wisely, and **shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.**

Jeremiah 33:16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: **‘The LORD is our righteousness.’**

Jeremiah 33:17 “For thus says the LORD: **David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,**

Ezekiel 34:23 And I will set up over them **one shepherd, my servant David,** and **he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.**

Ezekiel 34:24 And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. **I am the LORD; I have spoken.**

*“And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called*

*Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.”*

Micah 5:2 But you, O **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me **one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.**

Matthew 1:1 The book of the genealogy of **Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

Luke 2:7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and **laid him in a manger**, because **there was no place for them in the inn (caravanserai).**

Proverbs 14:4 Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean...

Isaiah 53:3 He was **despised and rejected by men**; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and **we esteemed him not.**

1Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: **man looks on the outward appearance**, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

Matthew 8:20 And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”

2Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, **that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor**, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Haggai 2:2 “Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to all the remnant of the people, and say,

Haggai 2:3 ‘Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? **How do you see it now? Is it not as nothing in your eyes?**

Matthew 1:23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name **Immanuel**” (which means, **God with us**).

Mark 2:15 And as he reclined at table in his house, **many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him.**

Mark 2:16 And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, “**Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?**”

Mark 2:17 And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. **I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.**”

Matthew 11:28 Come to me, **all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

Luke 17:24 For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day.

Luke 17:25 But first he must suffer many things and **be rejected by this generation.**

Acts 8:32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

Acts 8:33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

Acts 8:34 And the eunuch said to Philip, **“About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”**

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and **beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.**

Revelation 21:6 And he said to me, **“It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.**

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the Bride say, **“Come.”** And let the one who hears say, **“Come.”** And **let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.**

Philippians 2:6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Philippians 2:7 but **emptied himself**, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:8 And being found in human form, **he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**

Luke 2:8 And in the same region there were **shepherds** out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Luke 2:9 And an **angel of the Lord appeared to them**, and **the glory of the Lord shone around them**, and they were filled with great fear.

Luke 2:10 And the angel said to them, **“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news** of great joy that will be for all the people.

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David **a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Luke 2:12 And this will be a sign for you: **you will find a baby** wrapped in swaddling cloths and **lying in a manger.**”

Luke 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel **a multitude of the heavenly host** praising God and saying,

Luke 2:14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace among those with whom he is pleased!**”

Luke 2:15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “**Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.**”

Luke 2:16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and **the baby lying in a manger.**

Luke 2:17 And when they saw it, **they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.**

Luke 2:18 And all who heard it **wondered at what the shepherds told them.**

*"Who of us would want to celebrate Christmas correctly? Who will finally lay at the manger all power, all honor, all reputation, all vanity, all pride, and all selfishness? Who is content to be lowly and to let God alone be high? Who sees the glory of God in the humble state of the child in the manger? Who says with Mary: 'The Lord has been mindful of my humble state. My soul praises the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior'?"*

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

**“Have you room for Christ? Have you room for Christ?”**

As the palace, and the forum, and the inn, have no room for Christ, and as the places of public resort have none, have you room for Christ? "Well," says one, "I have room for him, but I am not worthy that he should come to me." Ah! I did not ask about worthiness; have you room for him? "Oh," says one, "I have an empty void the world can never fill!" Ah! I see you have room for him. "Oh! but the room I have in my heart is so base!" So was the manger. "But it is so despicable!" So was the manger a thing to be despised. "Ah! but my heart is so foul!" So, perhaps, the

manger may have been. "Oh! but I feel it is a place not at all fit for Christ!" Nor was the manger a place fit for him, and yet there was he laid." Oh! but I have been such a sinner; I feel as if my heart had been a den of beasts and devils!" Well, the manger had been a place where beasts had fed. Have you room for him? Never mind what the past has been; he can forget and forgive. It mattereth not what even the present state may be if thou mournest it. If thou hast but room for Christ he will come and be thy guest. Do not say, "I hope I shall have room for him;" the time is come that he shall be born; Mary cannot wait months and years. Oh! sinner, if thou hast room for him let him be born in thy soul to-day. "To day if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts as in the provocation." "To-day is the accepted time; today is the day of salvation." Room for Jesus! Room for Jesus now! "Oh!" saith one, "I have room for him, but will he come?" Will he come indeed! Do you but set the door of your heart open, do but say, "Jesus, Master, all unworthy and unclean I look to thee; come, lodge within my heart," and he will come to thee, and he will cleanse the manger of thy heart, nay, will transform it into a golden throne, and there he will sit and reign for ever and for ever.

Oh! I have such a free Christ to preach this morning! I would I could preach him better. I have such a precious loving, Jesus to preach, he is willing to find a home in humble hearts. What! are there no hearts here this morning that will take him in? Must my eye glance round these galleries and look at many of you who are still without him, and are there none who will say, "Come in, come in?" Oh! it shall be a happy day for you if you shall be enabled to take him in your arms and receive him as the consolation of Israel! You may then look forward even to death with joy, and say with Simeon—"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." My Master wants room! Room for him! Room for him! I, his herald, cry aloud, Room for the Savior! Room! Here is my royal Master—have you room for him? Here is the Son of God made flesh—have you room for him? Here is he who can forgive all sin—have you room for him? Here is he who can take you up out of the horrible pit and out of the miry clay—have you room for him? Here is he who when he cometh in will never go out again, but abide with you for ever to make your heart a heaven of joy and bliss for you- have you room for him? 'Tis all I ask. Your emptiness, your nothingness, your want of feeling, your want of goodness, your want of grace—all these will be but room for him. Have you room for him? Oh! Spirit of God, lead many to say, "Yes, my heart is ready." Ah! then he will come and dwell with you."