

Advent • Week 4
A Proper Perspective On Christmas
“Christmas in Exile”

*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.*

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

Luke 4:43 but he said to them, “I must preach **the good news of the kingdom of God** to the other towns as well; **for I was sent for this purpose.”**

John 8:32 and you will know the truth, and **the truth will set you free.”**

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

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

Luke 2:19 But **Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.**

Mark 15:37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last.

Mark 15:40 There were also **women looking on from a distance**, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and **Mary the mother** of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.

Acts 1:6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “**Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”**

Acts 1:7 He said to them, “**It is not for you to know times or seasons** that the Father has fixed by his own authority.

Acts 1:8 But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, **he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.**

Acts 1:10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,

Acts 1:11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? **This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.**”

Hebrews 12:27 This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the **removal of things that are shaken**—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that **cannot be shaken may remain.**

Hebrews 12:28 Therefore **let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken**, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,

Revelation 12:1 And a **great sign appeared in heaven**: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Revelation 12:2 **She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.**

Revelation 12:3 And **another sign appeared in heaven**: behold, a **great red dragon**, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.

Revelation 12:4 His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. **And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.**

Matthew 2:13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for **Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.**”

Matthew 2:16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and **he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.**

Revelation 12:5 She gave **birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne,**

Revelation 12:6 and the woman fled **into the wilderness**, where she has a place **prepared by God**, in which **she is to be nourished** for 1,260 days.

Revelation 12:7 Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back,

Revelation 12:8 but **he was defeated**, and there was **no longer any place for them in heaven.**

Revelation 12:9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, **the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.**

Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “**Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.**

Revelation 12:11 And they have conquered him **by the blood of the Lamb** and by **the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.**

Revelation 12:12 Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because **he knows that his time is short!”**

Revelation 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, **he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.**

Revelation 12:14 But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent **into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.**

Hosea 2:14 “Therefore, behold, **I will allure her**, and **bring her into the wilderness**, and **speak tenderly to her**.

Revelation 12:15 The serpent poured water like a river **out of his mouth** after the woman, **to sweep her away with a flood**.

Revelation 12:16 But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth.

Revelation 12:17 Then **the dragon became furious** with the woman and **went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus**. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

Revelation 19:11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! **The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True**, and in **righteousness he judges and makes war**.

Revelation 19:12 His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.

Revelation 19:13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is **The Word of God**.

Revelation 19:14 And the **armies of heaven**, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

Revelation 19:15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and **he will rule them with a rod of iron**. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

Revelation 19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, **King of kings and Lord of lords**.

Revelation 20:15 And if **anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life**, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had **passed away**, and the sea was no more.

Revelation 21:2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, **“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.”**

Revelation 21:4 **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more,** neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:5 And he who was seated on the throne said, **“Behold, I am making all things new.”** Also he said, **“Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”**

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 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, **“Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

Revelation 22:21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Treasure up all these things, pondering them in your heart,

Merry Christmas

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**