

Sermon Notes – December 22, 2019

Advent 2019

During Advent, we focus on God’s masterpiece – His great story of redemption! “The Christmas Story” is not simply a Bible story; it is part of one *glorious* BIG story that God is writing. At Sunset Bible Church we follow an original, seven-year Advent teaching plan:

- “The Promise” – The Gospel in the Abrahamic Covenant (2016)
- “Under His Wings” – Jesus as our Kinsman Redeemer (2017)
- “Shepherd Warrior King” – Jesus, the Greater Son of David (2018)
- “A Light in the Darkness” – God spoke in Israel’s darkest hours (2019)
- “The Dayspring from On High” – The Christmas story from Luke’s gospel (2020)
- “Joy to the WORLD” – God’s Mission to the nations (2021)
- “From Heaven’s Portal” – Christmas from Heaven’s perspective (2022)

Review: God’s Presence in Our Seasons of Darkness

Last week we visited Jeremiah 23:1-8 & Isaiah 9

- ⇒ We saw last week that God does not abandon His people in seasons of darkness, even when it is, to some degree, their fault. Rather, He calls us to repentance and speaks words of hope and comfort.
- ⇒ To the Jewish captives in Babylon long ago, God promised true justice, future consolation, a great Savior, and future redemption.

Freedom at Last! Joy Does Come Again!

- ⇒ God prompted a pagan king to grant _____ to the Jewish captives after seventy years. READ Isaiah 44:24-45:6
- ⇒ God did it! “The _____ of the king is as a channel of water in the hands of the Lord”; READ Ezra 1:1-4 with Proverbs 21:1
- ⇒ Indeed, “Weeping may last for the night, but joy comes with the morning.” (Psalm 30:5)
- ⇒ Hear the JOY! Contrast Psalm 137:1-6 & Psalm 126

Psalm 126 & Luke 1-2
Joy to the World; the LORD is Come!
Pastor Jay Mosser

An Even Greater Announcement: Messiah Jesus is Come!

- ⇒ Even greater than national deliverance, God promised a Savior who would come as our _____, One who would bring deliverance from a _____ than Egypt or Babylon. READ Isaiah 53:4-6 & Romans 3:10-12
- ⇒ God’s promised Savior is Jesus, whose _____ on the cross fully paid for our sins and whose righteousness is credited to all who trust Him and Him alone as their Savior from sin.
 - Matthew 1:21 – “He shall save His people from their sins.”
 - Luke 1 & 2 – “...A Savior who is Christ the Lord.”

Responding to God with JOY and HOPE

- ⇒ Only former captives fully grasp the joy of _____; only the guilty can fully grasp the joy of _____.
- ⇒ The profound joy reflected in Psalm 126 foreshadows a much greater day yet to come.
- ⇒ Hear God’s Word: Revelation 21 & 22

Next Sunday: December 29, 2019

“The Goal of Christian Ministry”

(Galatians 4:12-20)

Pastor Ben McCardell

Answer Key: • freedom • heart • sin-bearer • greater captivity • atoning death • deliverance • forgiveness •