

Sermon Notes – December 12, 2021

Advent Week #3

We have been on a seven-year Advent plan that focuses on seven “mountain peaks” that every follower of Jesus should learn about:

- Abraham: “The Promise” (2016)
- Ruth: “Under His Wings” (2017)
- David: “Shepherd, Warrior, King” (2018)
- Prophets: “A Light in the Darkness” (2019)
- Incarnation: “The Virgin’s Son – Savior of the World” (2020)
- **Mission: “Joy to The World” (2021)**
- Eternity: “From Heaven’s Portal” (2022)

Last week, we saw a savior who came into a busy and problem-filled world. We were challenged to not use our own busyness or disappointments as reasons to neglect God’s salvation.

Today’s Text: Luke & Acts

The biblical books of Luke and Acts are closely connected and should be read as a _____ set. Both were written by Luke, a historian in the early church, who interviewed _____ of Jesus’ ministry. Today, we’ll look at both books and see that Jesus had a very specific and intentional mission.

The Vertical Element of Jesus’ Mission (Luke 11:1-4)

- ⇒ We often celebrate the _____ reason for Jesus’ birth – God’s love for us and our need for a savior. As Jesus taught his disciples to pray, we see a vertical purpose in his mission.
- ⇒ Jesus’ first two requests are God-focused and reveal the primary motivation of His mission – God’s glory! “Hallowed be your name” is not an opening salutation but a request that God would make his name _____.
- ⇒ As we celebrate Advent, it is a good thing to hold on to both the horizontal and vertical elements of Jesus’ mission.

A Plan for God’s Glory (Luke 24:44-49)

- ⇒ How would God be glorified? The _____ are at the very core of God’s plan to glorify himself (Genesis 12:1-2; Psalm 67:1-2; Psalm 96; Amos 9:11-12; Revelation 7 & 9).

A Savior Who Came With A Mission
Luke 11:1-4; 24:44-49; Acts Pastor Tyler Pease

- ⇒ Jesus is the fulfillment of the Scriptures, but this is not the end of the story! _____ includes the Gospel being proclaimed to all nations (47).
- ⇒ Jesus’ mission to all nations must be strategically pursued. This intentional task is entrusted to us as Jesus’ witnesses (48).

Preparing the Church for the Mission (Acts)

In Acts, we see how Jesus continued to fulfill his mission through the Church.

- Preparing the Church for the mission required some BIG _____!
- ⇒ Acts 1:6-8 – The mission won’t be fulfilled the way you’re expecting. You will be my witnesses, but not just to your friends, to the ends of the earth!
 - ⇒ Acts 2:1-11 – The Day of Pentecost foreshadows God’s global purposes. The gospel is preached for the first time in a distinctly _____ manner.
 - ⇒ Acts 8:14-17 – The Gospel is proclaimed to the Samaritans (and to an influential Ethiopian – 8:26-40). God uses Peter and John very deliberately for this paradigm shift.
 - ⇒ Acts 10:44-48 – God sends Peter to a group of Gentiles, but how God uses Peter is quite different from what we saw in Chapter 8. The paradigm shift is so radical that no _____ involvement is allowed.
 - ⇒ Acts 15:23-29 – The success of Paul’s first mission trip to the Gentiles leads to controversy that must be addressed by the Apostles. What is required of Gentiles to follow Jesus? Their decision is based on Scripture and the testimony of the Holy Spirit. Gentiles can follow God without adopting _____ cultural or religious practices.

Responding to God’s Word in Worship & Obedience (37-50)

- ⇒ The Christmas story is a story for all nations! Our ability to celebrate today is the result of past Christians being obedient to the mission they were given.
- ⇒ It is easy to create and worship a caricature of Jesus rather than the living Savior. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, let’s remember and live for the reason he was born!

Advent Worship: December 19, 2021

“The Savior Long Foretold” (Acts 8:26-35; Isaiah 52:13-53:12)

Pastor Jay Mosser

Answer Key: • 2-volume • eyewitnesses • horizontal • famous • nations • Fulfillment • paradigm shifts • international • human • Jewish •