

December 11, 2016  
*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*  
Pastor Paul S. Brown  
Is. 7:14; Mt. 1:23

“Advent 2016 – Part 2: God is With Us”

**Advent = Coming or Arrival.**

Historically it has been a Season of Waiting: 1) Patience, resignation, submission, dependence and contentment with a less-than-ideal current state (Ps. 27:12-14; 37:7; Lam. 3:26); 2) Withholding human exertion; trusting in God rather than human means (Prov. 20:22; Is. 33:2; 40:31); 3) Waiting with hope and expectancy; anticipating that God will act (Ps. 38:15; 39:7; 130:5; Is. 8:17; 49:23; Lam. 3:25; Mic. 7:7); 4) Waiting in an eschatological light for coming redemption (Zeph. 3:8; Ps. 37:9, 34; 1 Cor. 1:7; Tit. 2:13; 2 Pet. 3:12); 5) General waiting that is “God-fearing” (Is. 30:18; 64:4; Hos. 12:6; Ps. 31:23-24). [Adapted from Ryken, L., Wilhoit, J., Longman, T., Duriez, C., Penney, D., & Reid, D. G. (2000). In *Dictionary of biblical imagery* (electronic ed., pp. 921–922). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press]

**Waiting on the Lord = Patiently looking to God for His guidance, and accepting the timing He proposes. It leads to an atmosphere of expectation and confidence in God and a realization of the unreliability of one’s own judgment.**

- Commanded (Hos. 12:6; Ps. 27:14; 37:7, 34; 123:2; Is. 30:18)
- Waiting for: God’s providence (Jer. 14:22); His salvation (Ps. 25:5); and His blessings (Ps. 145:15-16)
- Waiting on Jesus’s Second Coming (Lk. 12:35-40; 1 Cor. 1:7; 4:5; Tit. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; Jude 21)
- Benefits of waiting on God: It leads to expectancy (Ps. 5:3; Rom. 8:23; 1 Cor. 4:5; Gal. 5:5; Tit. 2:13); it leads to hope (Ps. 33:20; 130:5; Is. 51:5; Mic. 7:7); it leads to trust (Is. 8:17); it leads to patience (Rom. 8:23-25; Lam. 3:24-26; Rev. 6:9-11).
- Examples: Jacob (Gen. 49:18); David (Ps. 39:7); Isaiah (Is. 8:17); Micah (Mic. 7:7); Joseph of Arimathea (Mk. 15:43); Simeon (Lk. 2:25). [Adapted from Manser, M. H. (2009). *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies*. London: Martin Manser]

I.

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A. God’s Presence (“face”)

B. Omnipresence vs Personal (Experiential) Presence

1. Omnipresence = God is everywhere at all times (even Hell) – 1 Kings 8:27; Is. 66:1; Jer. 23:23-24; Prov. 15:3
2. Personal Presence = God’s presence is personally experienced (Ex. 33; Ps. 139)

II.

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A. In the \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 3)

B. In the \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (Ex. 13:21-22; 33; 40:34-38)

C. In the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Chron. 7; Ezek. 8-11)

D. In the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ (Is. 7:14; Mt. 1:23; Jn. 1)

III. \_\_\_\_\_

A. In a \_\_\_\_\_ Way

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn. 14:18-23)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Ps. 23; Jn. 10; 1 Pet. 5)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 7:25)

B. In a \_\_\_\_\_ Way (Mt. 28:18-20)

1. All-\_\_\_\_\_ Presence
2. All-\_\_\_\_\_ Presence
3. All-\_\_\_\_\_ Presence
4. All-\_\_\_\_\_ Presence

C. In a \_\_\_\_\_ Way

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Ex. 19:5; Dt. 4:20; 7:6; 14:2; Jn. 15:19; 17:14-16; 1 Pet. 2:9a)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 5:9-10; James 1:27; 1 Pet. 1:14-16; 1 Jn. 2:15-17)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 18:9-10; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; 1 Pet. 2:9-12)

**Discussion & Application:**

1. **What does it mean to wait on the Lord? What are some practical ways you can do that in your daily life? What other spiritual disciplines will help with this?**
2. **Read Ex. 33. Why was Moses so insistent that God's presence go with them on their journey? What can we learn from this?**
3. **Read Ps. 23. What does it mean that the Lord is your Shepherd? How does knowing that He is present in every situation you are facing impact you? How should it?**
4. **What promises does Jesus make at the end of Mt. 28:18-20? How does this apply to the Great Commission?**
5. **How does knowing that Jesus is "with you" at all times impact your personal holiness?**
6. **Schedule some time this week to meditate upon the truth that Jesus is WITH US.**

[Answers to blanks: **Theologically; Historically; Garden; Exodus / Wilderness; Temple; Person of Jesus; Practically; Personal; Savior; Shepherd; Intercessor; Powerful; Supplying; Saving; Sustaining; Sanctifying; Peculiar; Separation; Sanctification; Proclamation**]