

## # Outline

### ## I. Introduction to Advent

- A. Definition and meaning of Advent
  - Latin *\*adventus\** translating Greek *\*parousia\**
  - Means "the coming" or "the arrival"
- B. Purpose: recalls Christ's first coming and anticipates His second
- C. A 2000-year celebration planned before the foundation of the world

### ## II. The Context of Waiting

- A. Four hundred years of prophetic silence after Malachi
- B. Israel's faithful continued to gather, pray, and hope
- C. God breaks the silence at the appointed moment

### ## III. The Prophetic Thread

- A. Old Testament prophecies woven throughout Scripture
  - Genesis 3:15 - seed of woman crushing serpent's head
  - Isaiah 7:14 - virgin birth
  - Isaiah 9:6 - Child born, Son given
  - Micah 5:2 - Bethlehem birthplace
- B. The scarlet thread of redemption through every page

### ## IV. The Fullness of Time (Galatians 4:4-5)

- A. Meaning of "fullness of time"
  - Greek: *\*to plērōma tou chronou\**
  - Perfect completion of appointed season
  - Divinely synchronized timing
- B. Historical preparation during 400 years of silence

- God's providential hand at work
- Setting the scene historically, linguistically, politically

### ## V. The Role of Koine Greek

- A. Universal language under Alexander the Great
  - Common trade and cultural language
  - Accessible to ordinary people
- B. New Testament written in Koine Greek
  - Circulated broadly across the empire
  - No linguistic barrier for the Gospel
- C. The Septuagint (LXX)
  - Hebrew Scriptures translated to Greek (280 BC)
  - Greek-speaking Jews and Gentiles gained access to God's Word
  - Prepared cultural ground for the Gospel
- D. Theological precision of Greek language
  - Words like \*logos\*, \*agapē\*, \*charis\*, \*pistis\*
  - Expressed deep spiritual truths clearly
- E. Combination with Roman infrastructure
  - Pax Romana provided roads and safe travel
  - Greek language provided common tongue
  - Perfect conditions for rapid evangelism

### ## VI. The Coming of Hope

- A. Hope as a Person, not an idea
  - Jesus means "Yahweh saves"

- Christ called "our blessed hope" (Titus 2:13)

- B. Difference between "Hope" and "Hope-ing"

- "Hope-ing": belief God can do it, unsure if He will

- "Hope": rooted confidence God will do it at His appointed time

- C. Examples of biblical hope

- Old Testament: Abraham, Joseph, David, Israel

- New Testament: Paul, Peter, first century believers

- Simeon and Anna waiting a lifetime

## ## VII. The Purpose of Christ's Coming

- A. Born of woman - fully human

- B. Born under the law - to redeem from its curse

- C. Redemption (\*exagorazō\*) - bought out of slavery

- Debt paid in full

- D. Result: adoption as children of God

## ## VIII. Two Advents

- A. First coming in humility

- Wrapped in swaddling cloths

- B. Second coming in glory

- Revelation 19 - on white horse

- Crowned "King of kings and Lord of lords"

- Wrapped in majesty

## ## IX. Living Between the Two Advents

- A. Wait with worship

- Follow shepherds' example
- Gratitude replaces grumbling

- B. Hope with humility and holiness
  - 1 John 3:3 - purify ourselves as He is pure
  - Evaluate and establish right living

- C. Share with boldness
  - Angels proclaimed "good news for all people"
  - We are heralds of hope

- D. Trust in fulfilled longing
  - Proverbs 13:12 - longing fulfilled is tree of life
  - Tree reappears in Revelation 22

## ## X. Conclusion

- A. Declaration: Christ has come and Christ is coming again
- B. Our posture: wait, trust, declare
- C. Closing prayer for the Advent season