

# The Arriving King

November 29<sup>th</sup> 2009

# What Does Advent Mean?

Advent simply means, in a general way, the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.

# Historical Context of David

- David was a mighty king over God's people at the high point of Israel's history.
- David conquered all of Israel's enemies and secured them in the land that God promised.
- David brought God's people to a time of rest and peace which allowed Solomon to build the temple.

# The Temple

- Permanent structure that reminded God's people that he was among them.
- Holy of Holies was the place where the Ark of the Covenant was stored and the particular place that God's presence dwelled.
- The Temple was a visible place that demonstrated heaven and earth coming together.

# Luke

- Luke is concerned with tying up OT expectations.
- Luke describes the birth of Christ in light of the salvation that he is to bring.
- Luke is concerned with helping people understand that the promises of God are not for Israel only but for the Gentiles too.

# Zechariah

- Zechariah is in the holy of holies as the story of the arriving king begins to unfold. It is very fitting to hear about the coming of God to dwell among his people in the place that most symbolized that fact: the temple.

## Luke 1:16-17

- *And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared!*

# First and Second Advent

- The birth of Jesus Christ fulfills a long awaited expectation of the people of God but it also foreshadows a future reality—the return of Jesus Christ, or the Second Advent!

# December 25<sup>th</sup>

- Christmas was placed as close to the Winter Solstice as possible. This was done to emphasize the in-breaking of the kingdom of light in the birth of the Son of God!

# Our Dark and Broken World

- Romans 8 tells us that our world is cursed with the darkness of sin and we need redemption for it. The backdrop of our dark and broken world gives the birth of Jesus it's significance.

# The Arriving King

- The people of God were looking for a king that would be able to fulfill the reign of David, Luke 1:32 says that this king is Jesus! We see the in-breaking of God's kingdom in this dark world when he heals the sick, casts out demons, and forgives sins.

## Romans 8:22-23

- *For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of child birth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

# The Spirit of Advent

- A spirit of longing and expectation should mark believers as we recognize the first Advent. This is because the first Advent is a foretaste and foreshadow of the return of Jesus, the Second Advent.