

# WHAT CHILD IS THIS WEEK 1 "GOD"

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– PATRICK WALTON | 12.3.2017

## Luke 1:26-38

Advent, which comes from the Latin word *Adventus* simply means “a moment of preparation for the coming”—it found its roots within God’s family around the early 4<sup>th</sup> century as means of preparation for Christ’s 1<sup>st</sup> coming.

**INTRODUCTION**—*Pouring Rain, Pitch and Puddles*

### HOW DID THEY KNOW JESUS WAS COMING?

In our culture, Christmas is often about surprise, but when it came to Jesus’ first coming, it was no surprise—the Old Testament, the only text they had was (is) filled with prophecies detailing the specifics of Christ’s coming—There are around 330 prophecies that spoke of His first coming, many which were fulfilled within 3 days of His death:

1. 4,000 B.C.—Adam and Eve receive a prophecy that the Messiah would be born of a woman

Promise—Genesis 3:15 *“And I will put enmity between you and the women, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”*

Fulfillment—Galatians 4:4 *“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.”*

2. 700 B.C.—Isaiah prophesies that Jesus would live His life without committing any sins

Promise—Isaiah 53:9 *“And they made His grave with the wicked—but with the rich at His death, because He done no violence, nor was any deceit found in His mouth.”*

Fulfillment—1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21-22 *“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth.”*

3. 700 B.C.—Hosea prophesies that Jesus’ family would flee as refugees to Egypt to save His life

Promise—Hosea 11:1 *“When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son.”*

Fulfillment—Matthew 2:13-15 *“Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”*

4. 700 B.C.—Isaiah prophesies that John the Baptizer would prepare the way for Jesus

Promise—Isaiah 40:3 *“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”*

Fulfillment—Matthew 3:1-3 *“In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.”*

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus makes clear that the Bible spoke of Him:

**Luke 24:25-27** *“Then He said to them, O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”*

I think that Jesus’ words might have sounded something like this:

*"I walked with Abraham, visited Joshua as the Captain of the Armies of the Hosts of Heaven, wrestled with Jacob, appeared to Moses and Isaiah, joined Daniel in the fiery furnace, I am the second Adam, I prefigured the priesthood as your Great High Priest, I prefigured David and other Kings as the King above all kings, I prefigured Moses and the other prophets to become your ultimate Prophet, I prefigured the animal sacrifices to become the Lamb slain for you, I prefigured the temple which made God's resting place within My physical body, I prefigured the shepherds who care for sheep to become the Great Shepherd of your souls, I prefigured the judges to become the Great Judge over all things and I am the true vine, the true bread and the true water. I'm the greater Jacob who wrestled with God in the garden and though wounded and limping, I walked away from the grave fully alive. I'm the greater Joseph who sits at the right hand of God and extends grace and mercy to those who are a far off, even to the ones who sold Me. I'm the greater Isaac who walked to the hill carrying My own wood on My back, so that you wouldn't have to. I'm the greater than Abraham who left his father's house to build a place for others to come. I'm the greater Moses who stands before God and man offering Himself as the sacrifice. I'm the greater than Job, being innocent, I also suffered, was tormented by the devil, and had dumb friends that didn't give Me any encouragement in My pain. I'm the greater than David and have slain the giants that were in your way, up against sure defeat, I have conquered death hell and the grave. I'm the greater Jonah, who didn't spend three days in a fish, but three days in the grave and I'm the greater Hosea, who married a whoreing prostitute called My bride."*

God's people knew He was coming because they had carefully read, prayed and memorized the scriptures

## JESUS DECLARED PLAINLY THAT HE WAS GOD

Many false religions (*Jehovah's Witness, Baha'i, Buddhism, Christian Science*) wrongly state that Jesus never claimed to be God—As Christians we don't believe this because we said it, we believe it because Jesus Himself said it:

**Mark 14:61-64** *"But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again, the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, 'Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?' Jesus said, 'I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'what further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy...'"*

**John 8:58-59** *"Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.'"*

**John 10:30-33** *"I and My Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, 'Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me? The Jews answered Him, saying, 'For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.'"*

## WHAT DOES JESUS' FIRST ADVENT TELL US ABOUT GOD?

(1) He's approachable—John 1:14; 1st John 1:1 (2) God loves His creation—Luke 1:27-30 (12-14 yr old—family chores) (3) God wants partnership with His creation—Luke 1:35 (God, carried by humanity) (4) God longs to dwell with man—Matthew 1:23 (*Immanuel*) (5) God comes—Luke 1:7-25 (Zacharias) (6) God doesn't mind waiting (Gen. 3:15-Luke 1) (7) God will fulfill His promise—2nd Sam. 7:11-17; Luke 1:32-33 (8) God eternal is the author of this story—Luke 1:26-27; Revelation 22:16