

2 December



# Advent 2018

—THE BIBLICAL THEMES OF ADVENT—

*“Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and our shield.  
For our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.  
Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon  
us, even as we hope in you.”*

— Psalm 33:20-22

## “HOPE: THE WEARY WORLD REJOICES”

Series Introduction:

*The Biblical Themes of Advent*

### Introduction: The various kinds of *hope*.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Hope →

⇒ This kind of hope is rooted in the desire for what is good, but is based in either faith in human \_\_\_\_\_ or in \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Hope →

⇒ This kind of hope is also rooted in the desire for what is good, but is based ultimately on both the \_\_\_\_\_ of God to as well as His \_\_\_\_\_ among His people.

### The Biblical Terminology of Hope

**In the OT:** קָוָה (kā·vā) — To bind together (perhaps by twisting), i.e. collect; (figuratively) to expect:—gather (together), look, patiently, tarry, wait (for, on, upon).

Isa. 51:5— My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm *they wait*.

תִּקְוָה (tik·vā) — Literally a cord (as an attachment); figuratively, expectancy:—expectation(-ted), hope; a thing that longed for.

Psa. 71:5— For you, O Lord, are my *hope*, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

**In the NT:** ἐλπίζω (elpēzō) — (verb) To look forward to something with confidence that it will come to pass.

ἐλπίς (elpēs) — (noun) Confidence respecting fulfillment; expectation.

1 Tim. 4:10—For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our *hope* set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

Rom. 15:4—For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have *hope*.

**Key Point:** Biblical hope is a \_\_\_\_\_ that God will accomplish all that He has promised.

### The Genealogy of Jesus Christ—Matthew 1:1-17

- The genealogy is structured around the promises of God to His people but also contains echoes of the frustration and disappointments brought about by sin as it traces the rise and fall of Israel as a nation.

Abraham →

David →

- The genealogy also contains other prominent figures from the OT:

Jacob →

Rahab →

Ruth →

**Key Point:** God continued to \_\_\_\_\_ work out His plans and purposes even in the midst of folly and sin.

## A Thrill of Hope

- The Gospels go out of their way to emphasize that the events surrounding the birth of Jesus are the work of God to fulfill the promises that He had made to His people.

### *The angel's words to Mary:*

Luke 1:28-33—<sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” <sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

⇒ The angel emphasizes that the birth of Jesus is to fulfill God’s promises to \_\_\_\_\_.

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### *The angel's words to Joseph:*

Matt. 1:20-23—<sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

⇒ The angel emphasizes that the birth of Jesus is to fulfill God’s promises to deal with the problem of human \_\_\_\_\_.

**Key Point:** God is always at work in the world to bring about the fulfillment of His promises. He does so, however, in His own \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Hoping in Jesus Our Savior

### 1. Jesus came into the world in order to die in our place.

Isa. 53:5-6—<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.



1 Pet. 2:24-25—<sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### 2. Jesus is at work in us by the power of His Spirit to make us more like Him.

Isa. 11:2-3a—<sup>2</sup> And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup> And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.



2 Cor. 3:17-18—<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

### 3. Jesus has secured our future glorification where we will be like Him in every way.

Gen. 5:1-3—<sup>1</sup> This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. <sup>2</sup> Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. <sup>3</sup> When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.



1 Cor. 15:45-49—<sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

### Questions for Reflection:

- How does my life mirror the lives/experiences of some of those in the genealogy of Jesus?
- How have I seen God show Himself faithful to keep His promises in my life?