



ADVENT CONSPIRACY



MAIN IDEA:

What excites us most during advent reveals the object of our worship.

3 Key Observations:

1) The time of year when worshipping Jesus should be the easiest, is often the hardest.

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

– ***Jesus in Luke 12:15***

3 Key Observations:

2) Saying the right things without believing them hinders true worship.

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3) What we're longing for during the holidays is only found in Christ.



We are invited to respond to Jesus just like...

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1) Mary by singing to our redeeming God.

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me — holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their
inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers
from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

We are invited to respond to Jesus just like...

1) Mary by singing to our redeeming God.

2) Joseph by obeying God regardless of the cost.

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace,

Matthew 1:18-25

he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:18-25

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Matthew 1:18-25

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son.

And he gave him the name Jesus.

We are invited to respond to Jesus just like...

- 1) Mary by singing to our redeeming God.
- 2) Joseph by obeying God regardless of the cost.
- 3) Shepherds by leaving our busyness to worship Jesus.

Luke 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Luke 2:8-20

¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:8-20

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

Luke 2:8-20

“Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

We are invited to respond to Jesus just like...

- 1) Mary by singing to our redeeming God.
- 2) Joseph by obeying God regardless of the cost.
- 3) Shepherds by leaving our busyness to worship Jesus.
- 4) Magi by confronting obstacles between us and Jesus.

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:1-12

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

Matthew 2:1-12

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

Matthew 2:1-12

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

Matthew 2:1-12

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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“It is not enough to say no to the way Christmas is celebrated by many; we need to say yes to a different way of celebrating”

- Advent Conspiracy, Chapter 1



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