



Meditations for Advent 2020

Every year, when Advent, Christmas, the Forty days of Lent or Easter come along, the Servants of the Word choose a set of Scripture passages which will be read out during morning prayers in each one of our houses. That passage then forms the basis of our meditation that day, and during dinner the brothers will share the fruit of that meditation. Many other brothers and sisters have since adopted this practice and found it to enrich the particular season in their home. So please feel free to use the enclosed Scripture passages and pass them on to others you know. Be assured of our prayers for you in this special season.

WEEK ONE:

The meditations for the first week center on the second coming and on judgment.

Sun 11/29 | Is. 63:16-64:9

May the Lord come again and restore his people!

Mon. 11/30 | 1 Th. 4:13-18

The second coming of the Lord is a source of our hope.

Tue. 12/1 | Mk. 13:33-37

This is a time of watching and being ready for the coming of the Lord.

Wed. 12/2 | Jl. 3:9-18

The day of judgment will be a day of conflict, but also a restoration of God's people.

Thu. 12/3 | 1 Th. 5:8-10

Our hope is based on God's purpose for us, to attain salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fri. 12/4 | Rev. 20:11-15

The end brings judgment for all, both the living and the dead.

Sat. 12/5 | Rev. 21:1-7

The end also brings the New Jerusalem, and with it unending life in the Lord.

WEEK TWO:

The meditations for the second week focus on the reign of God and its proclamation.

Sun. 12/6 | Is. 40:1-11

The coming of God's reign over his people is announced by the voice crying in the wilderness.

Mon. 12/7 | Mic. 5:1-4

A prophecy of the King who will come in the strength of the Lord, whose reign will be the very reign of God.

Tue. 12/8 | Ps. 98:7-9

The expectation of the Lord's coming is a cause for rejoicing.

Wed. 12/9 | Lk. 3:1-6

John the Baptist comes in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord.

Thu. 12/10 | 2 Pet. 3:8-14

As we wait for the final coming of the kingdom, we seek to live in holiness and godliness.

Fri. 12/11 | Ac. 3:19-20, 26

The Lord Jesus Christ came the first time to deal with sin; he will come a second time to save those who wait for him.

Sat. 12/12 | Phil. 1:9-10

As we wait for the Lord's coming, we should grow in living the life of the age to come.

WEEK THREE:

The meditations for the remainder of Advent consider the preparation for the birth of the Messiah.

Sun. 12/13 | Is. 61:1-11

The coming of the Lord brings release and restoration to God's people.

Mon. 12/14 | Num. 24:2-8, 15-19

The prophecy of Balaam about the great king to come who will deliver God's people (see Matt. 21:23-27).

Tue. 12/15 | Zeph. 3:8-13

The Lord will change his people and bring them to humility and obedience to him (Mt. 21:28-32).

Wed. 12/16 | Is. 45:5-8

True salvation comes through the Lord alone; he is the only God and the only way (Lk. 7:18-23).

Thu. 12/17 | Is. 54:1-10

The Lord judges his people, but he fulfills his everlasting purposes for them by bringing them salvation (Lk. 7:24-30).

Fri. 12/18 | 1 Th. 5:23-24

A prayer that we may be made holy now and kept free from sin in preparation for the return of the Lord.

Sat. 12/19 | Phil. 4:4-5

An exhortation to rejoice in the nearness of Christ's coming, but also to rejoice in his presence in our lives now.

WEEK FOUR:

Sun. 12/20 | Phil. 3:20-21

Because of our expectation that the Lord will return and complete the process of our transformation, we live as those who have their home and citizenship in heaven.

Mon. 12/21 | 1 Cor. 1:7b-9

The relationship with God given to us through the first coming of Christ makes it possible for us to live so that we will be prepared for his second coming in judgment.

Tue. 12/22 | 1 Cor. 4:5

We are to live in such a way that we will be commended as faithful servants by the Lord himself, and not according to a human measure.

Wed. 12/23 | Jas. 5:7-9b

An exhortation to patience: we should wait for the full blessing Christ brings because we have already received blessing from him.

Thu. 12/24 | 2 Pet. 3:8-9

An exhortation to patience: the Lord, who came for the salvation of the human race, will come again at the right time.

READINGS TO ACCOMPANY THE FINAL WEEK OF MEDITATIONS:

Thu. 12/17 | Matt. 1:1-17

Fri. 12/18 | Matt. 1:18-24

Sat. 12/19 | Lk. 1:5-25

Sun. 12/20 | Lk. 1:26-38

Mon. 12/21 | Lk. 1:39-45

Tue. 12/22 | Lk. 1:46-56

Wed. 12/23 | Lk. 1:57-66

Thu. 12/24 | Lk. 1:67-79