

What Should We Do In Preparing For Christ's Coming?

24th December 2017

Luke 3:7-18

All of our Advent scripture says that though we can't know God, God knows us and that God knows that we cannot know God unless God wants to be known. The Incarnation, God becoming flesh says: we couldn't come to God so God came to us through Jesus. Jesus was not just a "great moral example," he was more than even "a helpful friend." Jesus is the Son of God. What Jesus says is what God wants most to say to us. What Jesus does is what God wants us to do.

As scripture says of the babe of Bethlehem, "***In him, fullness of God chose to dwell. Immanuel, God with us.***" Nobody has ever seen God – until Jesus the Christ. Today we reflect upon the truths of God's incarnation, we heard of the words of John, the son of Zachariah, recorded in Luke 3:7-18. John calls for the crowds to prepare the way for Christ's coming. As to prepare for Christ's coming, his message is a call to repentance with actions that demonstrate a transformed life (vs. 8, 11, 13 & 14).

And the crowds asked him, "***What should we do then?***" "***Produce fruits in keeping with repentance,***" he says. A life of faith and deeds of love are what counts before God. Bear fruit that benefits repentance – to share with others, be honest, avoid violence, act in love – was the reply, not only to love and worship God in Christ but also to follow Christ... wanting somehow to obey God, to live in the world to some degree as Jesus lived, to act as he acted, to love as he loved.

Christ is coming. "***What should we do?***" we may ask ourselves. Deep within our beings we know that we may go and bear fruits that benefit a citizen of the kingdom. As you ponder and reflect upon the question, you too will hear a voice from heaven, strong and kind, saying, "***In as much as you did it to one of the least you did it to me.***"