

Christmas 2021 001

12/5/21

The Servant Of God

Isaiah 42:1-7

I. **Introduction:**

A. **Christmas Season**

1. The Christmas season is special time of the year when we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
2. Families enjoy gathering and spending the special time together.
3. Gifts are exchanged. Children are especially excited. It's wonderful time of the year.
4. Life's normal routine is changed into just spending time with family and friends.

B. **About Jesus**

1. Contemporary society diminishes the fact that the Christmas season is about Jesus.
2. People say "happy holidays" instead of "merry Christmas" because they don't want to mention Christ. Various groups seek to ban anything referring to Jesus from the public.
3. The world wants the holiday only for the financial gain it brings.
4. However, Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, always will be.

C. **Advent of Christ**

1. Christmas's associated w/ word "Advent." Advent means arrival of someone important
2. The Christmas season is a celebration of the arrival of Jesus.
3. There are two advents of Christ spoken of in the Bible.

(1) – Suffering Servant

- a. The first advent of Jesus was His human birth through the virgin Mary.
- b. Jesus came 1st time as the suffering servant, despised & rejected, & then crucified.
- c. Jesus came 1st time to purchase our redemption. He died for our sin, saving us.
- d. The 1st advent happened some 2000 years ago.

(2) – Conquering King

- a. The Bible also states Jesus is coming back again. Jesus' 2nd advent will be as the mighty conqueror. He returns as King of kings and Lord of lords.
- b. Sitting upon David's throne in Jerusalem, Jesus will judge the nations & establish His kingdom on earth. Israel will be a great and mighty nation.
- c. The 2nd advent hasn't happened yet. It takes place at the end of the tribulation.

II. **The First Advent (Isaiah 42:1)**

- *700+ years before Jesus was born, prophet Isaiah foretold the suffering servant's arrival*

A. **Behold, My Servant**

1. Jesus was the perfect servant of the Father, coming in 100% obedience to Father's will.
2. Jesus willingly humbled Himself to take on human flesh, to become a man.
3. Jesus willingly laid aside His rightful place in glory becoming suffering servant for us.
4. Paul speaks to Jesus' great act of humility performed for us. (**Phil. 2:6-7**) Note 2 things

(1) – His Deity

- a. It was not robbery for Jesus to be equal with God for He is eternally God.
- b. Jesus wasn't claiming for Himself anything that has not been His from all eternity.
- c. Jesus is the creator of the universe. Jesus is eternally God.
- d. All of creation holds together because He wills it to be so.

(2) – Took on the form of a servant

- *Jesus voluntarily set aside His privileges as God to become the suffering servant for us.*

- *Taking on human flesh and dying for our sins, Jesus gave up the following:*
 - (a) His perfect relationship to the law
 - i. On the cross Jesus took our guilt & sin and became sin for you and me.
 - ii. Jesus became guilty of our sin & the law condemned Him, so we could go free.
 - (b) His heavenly glory
 - i. Jesus laid aside His glory as God and took on human flesh.
 - ii. He took on humanity so He could die for humanity.
 - (c) Independent exercise of authority.
 - i. Jesus willingly brought Himself under Father's will & the plan of redemption.
 - ii. Jesus said repeatedly He could do nothing of Himself, He did Father's will.
 - iii. Jesus lived a perfect sinless human life in accord with the will of the Father.

B. Mine Elect (Isaiah 42:1)

1. The word "elect" means to be chosen or appointed to a special purpose or task.
2. Those saved by faith in Jesus are elect of God. They're appointed to be God's children.
3. Jesus was Father's elect from eternity past, chosen by Father to die for us on the cross.
4. Trinity was in complete agreement. The plan of salvation could have never taken place had Jesus not agreed, willingly to die for us.

C. My Spirit Upon Him

1. The Father empowered Jesus to carry out the momentous task as Savior of the world.
2. Jesus was filled with the power of the Spirit without limitation.
3. Application: God has put His Spirit upon us as well.
4. Moment a person is saved by faith in Jesus, H. S. comes to live in them permanently.
5. We have all the power of God living in us. Our weakness is our sinful flesh.
6. We are the reason we do not enjoy the full power of the Spirit at work in our lives.
7. We grieve Holy Spirit w/ our sin. Jesus lacked such limitation, He was sinlessly perfect

D. Judgment To the Gentiles

1. This means Jesus would cause the true law of God to be published to the whole world.
2. Before Christ 1st advent, knowledge of the true & living God was bound up in Judaism.
3. The whole world had to approach God through the Jewish sacrificial system.
4. Salvation was always by faith in God, but the expression of that faith was through the sacrificial system of the tabernacle or temple.
5. The Gentiles were often viewed by the Jews as outside the love and embrace of God.
6. But in Jesus, God's law & His grace would be extended to the whole world (**John 3:16**)
7. Church Age: In the church age Jesus is calling out His bride from among every tongue and tribe of humanity. The gospel is preached and offered around the world today.
8. Anyone who will accept the offer of God's grace can be saved by faith in Jesus.
9. God will save anyone who will confess their sin & place their faith in Jesus.

III. The Servant Described (Isaiah 42:2-4)

A. A Calm Savior

1. Isaiah foretold Jesus' ministry would be unobtrusive, c/o calm instruction, teaching, & be compelling by fact & reason. His ministry didn't c/o emotional pleas or dramatic demo
2. Jesus' miracles took back seat to His message/ teaching. He didn't seek public acclaim
3. Application: The 21st century church should examine the ministry of Christ.
4. Teaching & understanding God's Word is basis upon knowing Him and being moved to celebrate and worship Him. We should never lead with emotion in sharing the Gospel.
5. It is truth that leads lost men and women to genuine saving faith in Jesus.

B. A Gentle Savior

1. “**A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench.**” Refers to the gentleness of Jesus & His love & compassion for the weak and feeble.
2. When a wick barely burns, the flame is gone, and it just smokes with a red tip.
3. The application is straight forward. Where there’s the smallest of faith and devotion, Jesus will not quench it. Rather He will tend the smoking flax and bring it to life.
4. Jesus will tend that smoking flax and make it a burning light for His glory.
5. Application: Jesus is tender & merciful; He’ll minister to you just where you are in life

C. A courageous resolute Savior

1. Jesus was meek & humble when He came as the suffering Servant.
2. But He was courageous and resolute as well. He would finish His work.
3. He would make sure the gospel of His grace is sent throughout the world.
4. The “coastlands” speaks to the Gentiles the world over.

IV. The Father’s Promise (Isaiah 42:5-7)

A. God The Creator Promised

- *As the Son was willingly obedient, the Father promised His success.*
 1. – A covenant with the people.
 - a. God’s covenant with Israel would henceforth be embodied in Christ.
 - b. Jesus is Israel’s Messiah, even though they rejected Him the 1st time He came.
 - c. They will not reject Him the next time He comes!
 - d. Jesus will lead the nation as their king & bring about all God’s promises to them.
 2. – Light to the Gentiles
 - a. The opening of blinded eyes means enabling the Gentiles to see spiritually.
 - b. By Christ finished work, the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to understand the Gospel.
 - c. If you’re saved now, it’s because Jesus opened your understanding & Holy Spirit drew you.