

Introduction:

- Advent is the Latin word of 'arrival or coming'. The celebration of the Advent Season for most is the celebration of the coming or arrival of Christ in the manger. Two examples in scripture of the Advent are:
 - Simeon - Lk 2:25-35. He was a righteous and devout man whom the Lord had told would not see death until he had seen the Messiah.
 - Anna - Lk 2:36-38. Was very old widow who served God with fasting and prayers daily in the temple. She had been waiting for God to rescue Jerusalem. (Messiah)
- There is another Advent, 'coming or arrival' that we are also waiting upon. It is the second coming of Christ.

I. The Angels**A. The First Advent**

1. The First Advent was announced by angels.
 - a) The created (angels) prepared the way for the creator.
 - b) Luke 1:30-33 The angel spoke to Mary. "You will conceive the Messiah by the power of Holy Spirit."
 - c) Mt 1:20 The angel spoke to Joseph. "Mary will bring forth a Son, call him Jesus."
 - d) Luke 2:9-14 The angels spoke to shepherds. "Go into the city of David. For there is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
2. The Angels assisted mankind.
 - a) Luke 1:26-38 Gabriel assisted Mary to believe.
 - b) Mt 1:20-ff the angels tell Joseph:
 - (1) To marry Mary.
 - (2) To flee Egypt Mt 2:13
 - (3) To return to Israel Mt 2:19
3. The angels adored the Christ Lk 2:13,14.

B. The Second Advent

1. Jesus does the announcing.
 - a) The Creator now has all things submitted to him.
 - b) Rev 1:11 "I am ..."
 - c) Rev 16:15 "Behold I come as a thief."
2. Jesus was assisted by angels.
 - a) *"Then I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds so they did not blow on the earth or the sea, or even on any tree."* (Revelation 7:1, NLT)
 - b) *"I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and they were given seven trumpets."* (Revelation 8:2, NLT)

- c) *"Then I saw in heaven another marvelous event of great significance. **Seven angels were holding the seven last plagues, which would bring God's wrath to completion.**" (Revelation 15:1, NLT)*
- 3. The angels again adore Jesus
 - a) *"Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders." (Revelation 5:11, NLT)*

II. The Violence

A. The First Advent

- 1. Herod seeks to deceive the wise men Mt. 2:7
- 2. Herod begins killing the innocents 2:16-ff
 - a) He was angry
 - b) He killed all who were two years and under Mt 2:16
 - c) The sound of wailing in Ramah. Jeremiah 31:15

B. The Second Advent

- 1. Mt 24:4 take heed no one deceives you.
- 2. Mt 24:9 they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations.
- 3. Mt 24:21 tribulation such as has not been since the beginning of the world.

III. The Message

A. The First Advent - follows 400 years of silence by God. Then God speaks! I have come to deliver!

- 1. Mt. 1:23 Immanuel - God with Us
- 2. Lk 1:31 Jesus, Son of the Highest
- 3. Lk 2:11 Savior, Christ the Lord
- 4. Mt. 1:21 He will save his people from their sins
- 5. In the first advent He comes down to clean up his people
- 6. In the first advent He comes down to clean up his people
- 7. He suffers for others freedom
- 8. He releases the captives

B. The Second Advent

- 1. Rev. 1:11 The Beginning and the End
 - a) The holder of time—beginning and end
 - b) The One sent to finish what was begun
- 2. To the Churches
 - a) Rev 2:1 Holds seven star and walks among the lamps
 - b) 2:8 first and last, dead but now alive
 - c) 2:12 He who has the sharp two-edged sword

- d) 2:18 Son of God who has eyes like fire
- 3. Worthy to break the seals - Rev 5:9
- 4. Lord of all nations Rev 11:15 the kingdoms of this world have become....
- 5. In the second Advent, His clean people come up to meet Him.
- 6. Others who were cause and sources of injustice suffer
- 7. He rewards the faithful.

Conclusion:

- *We want to celebrate the first Advent of Christ. It was our deliverance from sin.*
- *We must, like Simeon and Anna, look forward with expectancy to Christ's second return.*
- *Let the holidays remind you He is coming again.*