

What are you waiting for?

Luke 2:25-38 | December 24, 2023

Waiting for the Messiah

Adam

“The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” **Genesis 3:14–15**

Noah

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.” **1 Peter 3:18–20**

Abraham

“Now the Lord said to Abram, “I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed...To your offspring I will give this land.”

Genesis 12:1–3, 7

“Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.” **Galatians 3:16**

Balaam

“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.”

Numbers 24:17

Moses

“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—” **Deuteronomy 18:15**

David

“... I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”

2 Samuel 7:12–13

“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,” **Luke 1:32**

Isaiah

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.” **Isaiah 7:14; 9:6–7**

Ezekiel

“And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.” **Ezekiel 34:23**

Micah

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.” **Micah 5:2**

Daniel

“And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

Daniel 7:14

Mary

“And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” **Luke 1:31–33**

Simeon & Anna

- Righteous and Devout
- Led by the Holy Spirit
- Rooted in God's Promises
- Advanced in Years
- Active in Worship
- Thankful and Evangelistic

What were they waiting for?

- Waiting for consolation
- Waiting for salvation

- Waiting for a Person

“So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.” **Hebrews 9:28**

“Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.” **2 Timothy 4:8**

Waiting for Christ’s coming is an every-day, life-long, Spirit-led, Bible-based, hope-filled, Christ-centered, peace-giving, joy-inducing, evangelistic, worshipful yearning of our hearts.

The Yearning

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.

There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning for the promised One, the firstborn of Creation.

There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing.

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts a yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts a yearning.

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