



Advent - the Return of the King

Some people think that Advent is all about preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The word itself is not found in the Bible, but the idea it conveys certainly is! The word "Advent" comes from the Latin verb "*advenire*" which means "to come to" and it refers to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is the most significant teaching in the Bible's New Testament. So the preparation of Advent is not preparation for Christmas, but preparation for the return of the Lord Jesus as King over God's kingdom.

The Bible compares the preparations for Jesus' return to the preparations for a wedding. These days, weddings are often planned a year in advance. Every detail is considered - the venue, the reception, the service, who will be invited, where they will sit, the outfits of the bride and groom, the video, the flowers ... and every care is taken to make the day one to enjoy and remember.

The Return of the King requires us to prepare: "*Watch, for you do not know*

on what day your Lord is coming," said Jesus to his disciples in Matthew 24:42. "*For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night*" adds the apostle Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:2.

"*I am coming soon*" is the last thing said by Jesus in Revelation 22:20. Jesus' return will bring a time of wonder to the world, a time when it will be filled with God's glory.

We spend a lot of time and money preparing for Christmas or weddings - are we as committed to getting ready for the Return of the King? Do we know what this is about? Have we read God's plan for this great event? Start preparing now!



Join us for our weekly 10am Bible Hour or our Carol Service - Sunday 21st at 4pm.

December Bible Hour Topics:

Sun 7th *Why I Believe in Creation* *Youth
Special*

Sun 14th *The Good Samaritan*

Sun 21st *No Crib for a Bed (Carol Service 4 p.m.)*

Sun 28th *The Secret of Eternal Life - Revealed*

For greetings cards, Bibles,
children's books, calendars
and other Bible gifts - visit the
Bible Learning Centre
Poplar Way, Solihull.



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