

## What are you waiting for?

advent (noun)

- the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.
- the first season of the Christian church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays.
- the coming or second coming of Christ.

This time of year, we are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Christ. So, in doing some research, I thought I'd do a bible word search for "Advent". Huh...nothing in the bible. But, time and time again, this verse comes up...

*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1  
Thessalonians 4:17*

During our lifetime, we wait for a lot of things. It seems from the time we are born we wait for milestones. Turning 16, then 18, then 21...graduating high school then college...getting a good job, getting married, having children then grandchildren...eventually retiring...and finally going home to be with our Lord and those who have passed before us.

Over two thousand years ago, the Jews were waiting for a messiah to come and free them from the Romans and others who would keep them in bondage. They were looking for a mighty man to rise up and wipe out all of their enemies. With the birth of Jesus and his teachings, many recognized Him as that Messiah. But, why was he not raising an army? Wasn't he to restore the kingdom of Israel? When he was taken in front of Pontius Pilate, why did he not fight for his own freedom?

*But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Matthew 14:61-62*

His disciples were confused, frustrated and scared. They did not understand his words. They had waited for their Messiah, and now he would be gone. They had forgotten His promise to return.

*He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. Luke 24:6-7*

How many times in your life have you waited for something? How many times were you disappointed when your waiting seemed without ending or resolution? Where you confused, frustrated and scared?

Now mind you, I am not a patient person to say the least. Waiting for anything brings a true challenge to my everyday life. In recent weeks, while waiting for test results, the only comfort I could seek was in prayer.

The weeks leading to Christmas are our “Advent Season”. Christ’s returning is the true Advent yet to come. This is what I am waiting for. I am waiting, as patiently as I can, to see the face of the Lord in the clouds. To ever be in the presence of the Almighty redeemer.

*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

*1 Thessalonians 4:17*

This “Advent Season” celebrate the child born in a manger. Remember the reason he came, and the final Advent yet to come.

Merry Christmas and Blessings to you all in the New Year!



Cindy Lee Nonnemacher  
Author