## "If My People" 2nd Chronicles 7:14

# Advent Prayer Devotional 2022

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church Pastor Undra Parker ADVENT: THE SEASON OF PREPARATION AND EXPECTATION Advent is the period of anticipation and celebration during the four Sundays and weeks before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin term (adventus) meaning "coming" or "arrival." This is the coming or arrival of Jesus into the world. Christians use the four Sundays and weeks of Advent to prepare and remember the true meaning of Christmas. Christians proclaim three meanings of "coming" during Advent: Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, our acceptance of Him in our hearts, and His glorious return. Historically, Advent is marked by four observed themes each Sunday. There are numerous variations throughout Church History, but for Shiloh, we will follow the themes of hope, joy, love, and peace.

The Prayer Ministry has prepared an Advent Devotional Booklet, and we want each person/family to use it during this season as your time of prayerful anticipation. The Advent season goes from November 27 to December 24, 2022. Christ offers eternal hope, joy, peace, and love by Him coming into the world and bringing with Him salvation to a broken and lost world.



## November 27th - Day 1 - Week 1 - God's Hope and Promises

Advent is a season when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, who is the best gift to the world. God offers hope to a loss people. "Behold, the days are coming, said the Lord that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah." God is faithful, he continues to honor his love and his willingness to bless all of Israel. He'll be the God of all the families of Israel. God's same blessings and promises are for all who love and honor Christ as the Messiah. The promise of the Messiah. Jeremiah 33:14.

Dear God, Thank you for the gift of hope and our restoration. Thank you for the promise of the Messiah our Salvation.

## November 28th - Day 2

The Bible refers to Jesus Christ as being The Promise of the Anointed One, it also explains Christ as our Savior who delivered mankind from sin. God anointed his son to be our Prophet, Priest, and King. The Spirit of God himself anointed Jesus to proclaim the good news of salvation and he has all power in heaven and in earth. Luke 4:18, Acts 10: 38.

Lord God, thank You that the sacrifice of Jesus blood redeems us and that Your word guides us.

## November 29th - Day 3

Satan is the enemy of human race, so God placed a spiritual barrier between Satan's people and God's people. Christ came in the form of a human being whose death on the cross delivered the final blow to Satan and his kingdom. God Promised Redemption through the seed of a woman. "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thy shall bruise his heel. Genesis 3:15. Certainly this is a message of hope. God prophesied the defeat of Satan by the coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

Lord, help us to remember the positive results of obeying God and the dreadful consequences of disobeying God. We can be assured of The Promise of Holy Spirit and that God's Hope is for the hopeless. John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" his message was "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie........." For truly John baptized with water; but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Acts 1:5.

Heavenly Father, thank You that we are transformed by the Holy Spirit and for the ability to hope.

## December 1st - Day 5

One amazing fact is that God's Hope will carry us through struggles and pain .... there is no task or situation too hard for God that we will encounter. He is The Promise of Comfort, The Bible instructs us He is God "the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we are comforted of God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.

Thank You, God, that you are the father of all mercies and the God of all comfort, and that Jesus came to give us the gift of hope through salvation

## December 2nd - Day 6

.... Beloved you matter to God, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in fear of God. God Promise He will receive you, and will be a FATHER UNTO YOU, AND YE SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, saith the Lord Almighty. We should seek God for all our needs. The wealth of luxuries is not our need. God Promise to Supply every need we have. The Bible says" But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." God made Himself to be the supplier of our needs. I suppose the needs are good health, shelter, food, clothing, friendship, love, and above all salvation through Jesus Christ our Savior. 2 Corinthians 7:1 and Philippians 4:19 KJV

We pray in the name of Jesus our Lord, that our hearts will be filled with the hope of God and that they will receive the gift of salvation.

#### December 3rd - Day 7

No one whose hope is in God will ever be put to shame. Hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. Since the sinful nature of mankind provokes the wrath of God, the righteousness of God is very much needed. Christians can declare that God's love lives in the heart. In fact your life reflects the heart. God says "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised. Romans 5:5 and Hebrews 10:23

Father God, thank You that the hope we receive is from you and is grounded in truth. Thank You that you are Able to bring hope through these trouble times. Do not let us be put to shame, nor let our enemies' triumph over us. In The Name Of Jesus. Amen

#### December 4th - Day 8 - Week 2 - Prophecy

This begins the second week of our advent prayer devotional. This is the week of prophecy about Jesus Christ. Prophecy is the foretelling of a truth before it happens, there are over 300 prophecies in the Bible about Jesus Christ. The prophetic scripture that we want to look at today comes from Micah 5:2KJV. But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of the shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler of Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old from everlasting. The old testament foretold the coming of Jesus the Messiah the promised one. The prophecy of Micah came forth at a time when Israel would be humbled by foreign powers. Out of the city of Ephratah meaning fruitfulness, God would bring forth His fruit of righteousness.

In Your prayer thank God for the prophecies He has spoken about the birth of Jesus and for their fulfillment.

#### December 5th - Day 9

Isaiah writes in the seventh chapter and the 14th verse, therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel. This scripture identifies for us uncommon signs that can only happen once. The scripture says a virgin shall conceive and bear a son. The word virgin means a woman that has not had sexual intercourse with a man. Virgin also means unmarried, untouched, naïve, innocent and without experience. The name Emmanuel identifies who this baby is. His name identifies his humanity as well his deity. Being born of a virgin speaks to his humanity. In Hebrew the letters EL at the end of Emmanuel means "God", and the EM that begins the name Emmanuel means "With". Thus Emmanuel is interpreted "God With Us".

When you pray today remember this, God is still with us! This prophecy was given more than 700 years before the actual birth of Emmanuel.







#### December 6th - Day 10

Jesus came from heaven to earth to seek and to save those who were lost. We can look not only at the Old Testament for prophecies about the life and ministry of Jesus Christ but we can look to the New Testament as well. Jesus gave prophecies and taught his disciples about his Death and Resurrection. Mark 8: 31 KJV reads: For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day. We inherited sin from Adam and Eve as they transgressed God's will in the garden of Eden. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Only Jesus Christ whose blood was free from sin was able to pay the price to redeem mankind and reunite us back with God the father.

When you pray thank God for the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

## December 7th - Day 11

The word Advent means the coming of something important. God put man in the Garden of Eden, gave him the job to dress and keep it. God took a rib from Adam and created woman. For God had commanded Adam saying," Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat but of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil you shall not eat of it for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die". In Genesis chapter 3 God announces punishment for the man, woman and the serpent, and reveals that a Savior is coming. Genesis 3:15 reads, And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her Seed shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel. God announced to Satan that since he had used a woman as an instrument to bring down the human race, God would use a woman to bring the Redeemer into the world that would restore mankind. Read Genesis chapters 2-3. *Pray and thank for your redemption.* 

#### December 8th - Day 12

Zachariah was one of the 11 minor prophets. He was priest and prophet. Zachariah the ninth chapter not only prophesies that a king was coming but also gives a description of the prophesied king. Zachariah 9:9 KJV reads: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon, an ass, and up on the colt the foal of an ass. This prophecy of the coming king says that He is just meaning this King is different, from earthly kings, He is righteous. This king brings salvation and deliverance. He is lowly in other words this King is not coming to be served, but to serve. Jesus did not come riding on a horse as most kings did. But this King is of a different kingdom riding on a colt the foal of a colt, meaning riding on a purebred animal. *When you pray thank Father God that Jesus is the King unlike any other King. He is the King Eternal, Immortal and Invisible the Only Wise God who has come to save mankind.* 

#### December 9th - Day 13

The great prophet Isaiah foretold more about Jesus Christ than any other prophet. Christ subjected Himself to all aspects of humanity except sin. He divided His victory or spoils with mankind through His work on the cross. He died for our good as well as in our stead. He voluntarily poured out his life to the death for sinners. He was treated as a transgressor, when really we were the transgressors. Crucified between two thieves. He bore the sins of many including those who crucified Him. While dying on the cross he made intercession by saying, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do". Today Jesus is still our intercessor.

When you pray thank God for the Crucifixion and its benefits.

## December 10th - Day 14

Jesus went to Jerusalem during the Feast of the Passover and found money changers and people selling animals for sacrifice in the temple. He made a scourge and drove them out of the temple. He said to them, "Make not my Father's house a house of merchandise. Some of the people missed that He identified Himself with God. The Jews asked Him for a sign or by what authority he cleansed the temple. Jesus answered and said, "Destroy this temple and in three days. I will raises it up again". Here he prophetically declares His Resurrection Read John 2.

When you pray ask God "What signs might you be missing"?

#### December 11th - Day 15 - Week 3 - Joy

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11

The shepherds were terrified by the appearance of the angel, but their terror quickly turned to joy at the news of Jesus birth.

Pray that hearts are filled with Joy for the birth of Jesus!

#### December 12th - Day 16

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. Romans 15:13

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11

To commune with God is to experience true joy.

Pray that Hope and Joy go hand in hand.

## December 13th - Day 17

O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our  $\sqrt{}$  salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and make a Joyful noise unto him with psalms! Psalms 95:1-2

Pray that our faith leaves us no choice and we can't help but give our Joyful thanks to the source of our salvation-JESUS.

#### December 14th - Day 18

And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them. Have ye here any meat? Luke 24:40-41

The disciples on the road to Emmaus could barely believe that it was the risen Lord whom they met, but they were filled with joy anyway; even in our doubts, the presence of God can lift our spirits.

*Pray that during your difficult times the Lord will lift your spirits with his wonderful Joy.* 

#### December 15th - Day 19

And whence is this to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. Luke 1:43-44

The baby, later to be John the Baptist in Elisabeth's womb leaped for joy in the presence of Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus.

Pray and thank Father God for His Joy!

## December 16th - Day 20

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that // repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Luke 15:7

We believe in a forgiving GOD.

When you pray believe that we have a forgiving God; take Joy in that knowledge.

#### December 17th - Day 21

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet // believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9

You do not need to see GOD to believe in the LORD. Just by having faith and believing in Him you can feel joy.

When you pray spend time Rejoicing in the Lord.

#### December 18th - Day 22 - Week 4 - The Birth of Jesus

"And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus." (Luke 1:28 & 31)

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary - at her young age, nothing had prepared her for this moment. She was gripped by fear, but Gabriel brought Mary comfort. She was chosen as God's favorite to bring the Savior into the world to save us. Her fear was gone, and her heart was over-whelmed with joy. God favors His children and has great plans for our lives that will cause us to be overwhelmed with joy. Mary confidently said, "My soul praises the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..." (Luke 1:46b-47).

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who offers overwhelming joy to all His children.

## December 19th - Day 23

The Lord demonstrates incredible love through what He gave the world over 2,000 years ago at Christmas. He gave His Son, Jesus. "In this, the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him." (1 John 4:9)

However, sin caused a problem. Because God is perfect, without sin, we need someone perfect to stand in our place. We needed a substitute, and that substitute was Jesus. "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:10)

God desires a relationship with you. He gave us Jesus to demonstrate the profound depth of His love to the world.

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who shows us what true love is all about.

## December 20th - Day 24

"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."" (John 8:12)

Something about all the lights during this time of the year brings much-needed light to our dark world. As His followers, we can rest in knowing that Jesus brings His light into the lives of those who have surrendered to Him. When we give our lives to Christ, we walk in His light and not in the world's darkness.

One of the most important reasons we have it is to share it with those walking in the darkness — those far from Christ.

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who gives us a reason to share the gospel with our family, extended family, neighbors, and those all around us.

#### December 21st - Day 25

In all of Paul's letters, he helps us see how to live our lives with clarity and focus. He says in today's devotion, "Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13. Why is love the greatest? Why does Paul want us to focus on love so much?

Love is one of God's many attributes. The word for love used in this verse comes from the Greek word "agape." This kind of love is self-giving and expects nothing in return. What a unique, loving gift God has given!

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who showed us what agape love looks like.

## December 22nd - Day 26

One of the most significant parts of this season is giving gifts to our family and friends. In Matthew 2, the Magi from the East gave several impressive and expensive gifts to Jesus and His family. As wonderful as it was to provide him with their gold, frankincense, and myrrh, a more excellent gift was given that day; their gift of genuine, humble worship.

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary, His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:10-11)

No amount of money or distance would hinder these magi from the chance to worship the King of kings, and neither should it hinder us.

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who is the best gift the world could ever receive. Teach us to worship *Him humbly*.

#### December 23rd - Day 27

"Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night, departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." (Matthew 2:13-15)

Today's reading aims to bring attention to Joseph's response to obedience to God's command. God calls us to show our love for Him by obeying the commands in His Word. Let us love and obey the One who gives great commands, which are only given out of love.

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who loves us and has given us His Word to study and obey.

#### December 24th - Day 28

When people are sick, they appreciate those who are there for them. Regardless of whether they are there to help treat the child or lift their spirits, the one factor remains that someone was with them.

"So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." (Matthew 1:22-23)

Similarly, God loves us and wants to be with us. But this desire does not mean that He needs us or anything else, for that matter. God desires to have a relationship with us.

Why would a holy, all-powerful, all-knowing God want a relationship with anyone from the human race? People can be sinful, weak, and, most of the time, have a lot of trouble.

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus, who truly loves us and is always with us.



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14 KJV