

The Promised King

INTRO

Qu: What are you “clicking” these days?

It seems like what we are gravitating towards on news apps, or social media, or Reddit might be an indication of our hopes or our worries or our fears in these wearisome times.

- Covid numbers. Variants. Vaccines.
- Travel restrictions
- Politics here or in another nation
- Climate change
- Social justice (or injustice)
- Mortgage rates. House prices.
- Jobs in your field
- Or just looking for distractions?

REFLECT

“The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come.”
— Dietrich Bonhoeffer at age 22 — from a sermon delivered December 2, 1928

“A prison cell like this is a good analogy for Advent,” he said. “One waits, hopes, does this or that—ultimately negligible things—the door is locked and can only be opened from the outside.”

— From a letter written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer from Tegel Prison November 1943

READ

There are elements to the Christmas Story that are significant and powerful. In this series, we look at the 3 gifts presented to Jesus – gold, frankincense, and myrrh – and unpack their significance and meaning for us today.

- Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

These wise men came searching for a King. They found him and offered their gifts to him. Gold signified, symbolized, and recognized his Kingship.

RESPOND

The prophet Isaiah speaks much of this coming King about 700 years before Jesus’ birth. (Isaiah 9, 11, 16, 32, 42)

Who is this King?

- This King will take over the running of the world
- This King brings wholeness with no limits
- This King will render decisions with justice
- This King is a Ruler you can depend on
- This King is steadfast
- This King brings shelter from the storm
- This King brings water in dry places
- This King brings shade in a weary land
- This King doesn’t brush aside the bruised and the hurt
- This King will steadily & firmly set things right.

Qu: How do you need to encounter King Jesus this Advent? What aspect of our King brings you comfort or hope and why?

PRAY

Pray for the coming year:

- pray for God to pour out his Spirit on our nation
- pray for one another in this Advent series to find peace, rest & hope in our Saviour