

miracle

"I Need to Know it's Not Too Late"

Miracle, Part 1

Ed Noble, Lead Pastor ♦ December 5 & 7, 2014

CHRISTMAS MIRACLE — Christmas (a.k.a. Advent) arrival, the waiting, the NEED for a miracle!

BACK STORY OF CHRISTMAS is a question:

"Is it too late? At this point it will take a miracle."

⁶ They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years. Luke 1:6-7

But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. Luke 1:13

PREPARING FOR OUR INTERRUPTION

Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years." Luke 1:18

1. STOP LIMITING GOD

- By binaries — "this or that"
- "Safe prayers" — incense without intent... without intensity.

2. KEEP IN MIND THAT... "Good News" (Gospel) breaks limits... and molds!

- Ask: Am I holding up a limit?
- Ask: Am I holding up a mold?

3. THINK MERCY NOT DESERVE

Beware of the idea that God owes us an answer.

Beware of — root out/surface the feeling that God has wronged me.

4. GET READY... FOR ???

ADVENT
DEVOTIONAL

The Second Sunday of Advent: Peace
Sunday, December 7

The prophet Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah, says

"...and he will be their peace"

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are small among the clans of Judah,
Out of you will come for me
One who will become the ruler over Israel,
Whose origins are from of old,
From days of eternity.
He will stand and shepherd his flock
In the strength of the LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
Will reach the ends of the earth
And he will be their Peace...

Micah 5:2, 4, 5a

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

The journey from Galilee to Bethlehem takes several days on foot. There is no indication that Joseph had a donkey for Mary to ride upon. They arrive to find that there was "...no room for them in the inn." Many have speculated that the inn keeper took pity upon them and found them a dry sheltered place where the animals were kept. We glean this from the reference to the manger. What we know is the baby Jesus is born, angels proclaim the news to some shepherds who had the night shift and, being inexperienced in angelic visitations, decide to come and see for themselves. It seems so extravagant for angels to come to shepherds and so absurd that the parents take refuge in a barn. He is tucked away where only a cadre of irresponsible workmen (who leave their sheep) seek him out. Can you see him? Come close. Mary smiles and moves back the cloth from his face; behold, "He is Christ, the Lord!" They look upon him and leave rejoicing. Jesus comes to us, not as a baby but as the Savior. Will you make room?

Now may "The peace of the Lord be with you."

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born . . ." (Luke 2:4-6)

Visit our website for daily devotionals throughout advent:

journeycommunitychurch.com/advent

miracle

"I Need to Know it's Not Too Late"

Miracle, Part 1

Ed Noble, Lead Pastor ♦ December 5 & 7, 2014

ADVENT
DEVOTIONAL

The Second Sunday of Advent: Peace
Sunday, December 7

The prophet Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah, says

"...and he will be their peace"

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are small among the clans of Judah,
Out of you will come for me
One who will become the ruler over Israel,
Whose origins are from of old,
From days of eternity.
He will stand and shepherd his flock
In the strength of the LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
Will reach the ends of the earth
And he will be their Peace...

Micah 5:2, 4, 5a

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

The journey from Galilee to Bethlehem takes several days on foot. There is no indication that Joseph had a donkey for Mary to ride upon. They arrive to find that there was "...no room for them in the inn." Many have speculated that the inn keeper took pity upon them and found them a dry sheltered place where the animals were kept. We glean this from the reference to the manger. What we know is the baby Jesus is born, angels proclaim the news to some shepherds who had the night shift and, being inexperienced in angelic visitations, decide to come and see for themselves. It seems so extravagant for angels to come to shepherds and so absurd that the parents take refuge in a barn. He is tucked away where only a cadre of irresponsible workmen (who leave their sheep) seek him out. Can you see him? Come close. Mary smiles and moves back the cloth from his face; behold, "He is Christ, the Lord!" They look upon him and leave rejoicing. Jesus comes to us, not as a baby but as the Savior. Will you make room?

Now may "The peace of the Lord be with you."

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born . . ." (Luke 2:4-6)

Visit our website for daily devotionals throughout advent:

journeycommunitychurch.com/advent

CHRISTMAS MIRACLE — Christmas (a.k.a. Advent) arrival, the waiting, _____ for a _____!

BACK STORY OF CHRISTMAS is a question:

"Is it too late? At this point it will take a miracle."

⁶ They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years. Luke 1:6-7

But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. Luke 1:13

PREPARING FOR OUR INTERRUPTION

Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years." Luke 1:18

- STOP _____
 - By binaries — _____
 - _____ — incense without _____... without _____.
- KEEP IN MIND THAT... "Good News" (Gospel) breaks _____... and _____!
 - Ask: Am I holding up a _____?
 - Ask: Am I holding up a _____?
- THINK _____ NOT _____

Beware of the idea that _____.

Beware of — root out/surface the feeling that _____.

- GET READY... FOR ???