



ADVENT

HOPE / PEACE / LOVE / JOY



HAPPINESS

Happiness is a positive emotional response to favorable circumstances.

JOY

Joy is a deep, resilient confidence rooted in God's presence and promises of future restoration—regardless of circumstances.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand,
I shall not be shaken.

⁹ Therefore my heart is ***glad***,
and my whole being ***rejoices***;
my flesh also dwells secure.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let your holy one see corruption.

¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy;

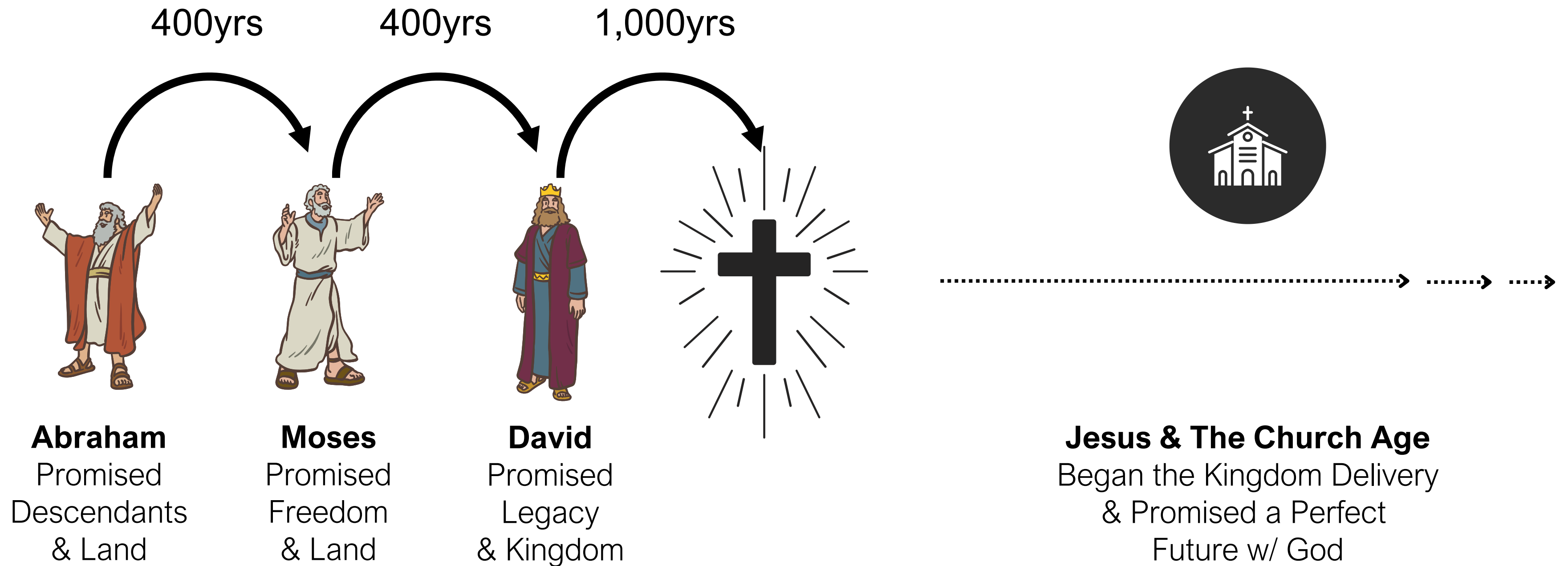
at your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.

PSALM 16:7-11

ADVENT: LOOKING TO THE PAST TO BUILD
ANTICIPATION FOR THE FUTURE IN THE PRESENT.



PAST



PRESENT

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³ We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: **by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger;** ⁶ **by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love;** ⁷ **by truthful speech, and the power of God;** **with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;**

2 CORINTHIANS 6:2-7

⁸ through **honor** and **dishonor**, through **slander** and **praise**. We are treated as **impostors**, and **yet are true**; ⁹ as **unknown**, and **yet well known**; as **dying**, and behold, **we live**; as **punished**, and yet **not killed**; ¹⁰ **as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing**; as **poor**, yet making many **rich**; as having **nothing**, yet possessing **everything**.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:8-10

FUTURE



Future Promises of Joy:

- Our future joy is guaranteed.
(**Psalm 16:11**).
- Our future joy includes welcome and reward.
(**Matthew 25:21**)
- Our future joy will be everlasting.
(**Isaiah 35:10**)
- Our future experience of joy will not be weakened by suffering, death, or mourning.
(**Revelation 21:3-4**)

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

MATTHEW 25:21



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²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. **Enter into the joy of your master.**

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(Revelation 21:3-4)

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

ISAIAH 35:10



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³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”**

REVELATION 21:3-4

LIVE THE TEXT

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, **that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.**

- By the power of the Spirit, we can **keep Christ's commandments**.
- We can **do this with the joy** of the Lord.
- We must **help each other** keep Christ's commandments with the fullness of joy!

JOHN 15:9-11