

Sermon Summary: This Advent sermon explores the prophetic message of Isaiah 11, emphasizing that hope has a name—Jesus Christ. The pastor addresses how Israel waited over 600 years for the promised Messiah while their nation appeared as a dead stump, yet God remained faithful to His promise. The message challenges believers to maintain faith during seemingly impossible circumstances, recognizing that God's timeline differs from human expectations. The sermon connects Old Testament prophecy to both Christ's first coming and His second return, urging the congregation to prepare their hearts through worship, submission, and faith. Central to the message is the understanding that true peace and hope come only through Jesus Christ, who brings supernatural restoration to broken lives and situations that appear beyond repair.

## Key Points:

- Advent means the coming or arrival of something special specifically Jesus Christ
- Israel was reduced to a stump after Babylonian conquest, with no visible hope for 600+ years

- God's promises never die, even when circumstances appear hopeless
- Faith is believing God's word despite what we see in the natural
- The vitality of life depends on the roots—if roots are alive, fruit can still come
- Christ brings the Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge
- Jesus judges with righteousness, not by superficial appearances
- The same hope promised to Israel is available to believers today
- We must prepare for Christ's second coming through worship and submission
- True peace comes only through surrendering to Jesus Christ
- Worship and submission are the entrance to experiencing God's peace

## Scripture Reference:

- Isaiah 11:1-10 (primary focus)
- Hebrews 11:1 (faith is the substance of things hoped for)
- References to David's lineage and the Davidic covenant
- Allusions to Matthew's account of Christ's birth
- References to Paul's teachings on contentment and peace
- Allusions to Jesus' teachings about His second coming (workers in the field, grinding at the mill)