

THE STORY OF
CHRISTMAS

Fall

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

Isaiah 9 + Matthew 1

Advent 2019

The Story of Christmas:
Genesis to Revelation

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The grand, overarching narrative of scripture:

Creation - Fall - Redemption - Restoration



The Story of Christmas:
Genesis to Revelation

The Fall

“We know that the spiritual atmosphere in which we live erodes faith, dissipates hope and corrupts love, but it is hard to put our finger on what is wrong.”

- Eugene Peterson

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction

Big Questions:

- What has gone wrong with the world?
- Why all the anger, violence, chaos, confusion, and malice?
- Can we distinguish right from wrong?
- Do we have any moral obligation to do what is right and refrain from what is wrong?

“Advent offers an unparalleled opportunity to take a fearless inventory of the darkness in our world and in our hearts, into which the True Light will come.”

- Fleming Rutledge



The Story of Christmas:
Genesis to Revelation

Questions, Curses & a Promise

1. The serpent's questions were designed to undermine God's Word and promote unbelief.

Questions, Curses & a Promise

2. God's questions were designed to cultivate repentance and catalyze belief.

“Certain new theologians dispute original sin, which is the only part of Christian theology which can really be proved. Some... admit divine sinlessness, which they cannot see even in their dreams. But they essentially deny human sin, which they can see in the street.”

- G.K. Chesterton
Orthodoxy

Questions, Curses & a Promise

3. God's curses were designed to expose the consequences of unbelief.

“A creature revolting against a creator
is revolting against the source of his own
powers - including even his power to revolt...
It is like the scent of a flower trying to destroy
the flower.”

- C. S. Lewis

Questions, Curses & a Promise

4. God's promise foreshadows the glorious Gospel of grace.

“The Christmas message is that ‘on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.’ Notice that it doesn’t say from the world a light has sprung, but upon the world a light has dawned. It has come from outside. There is light outside of this world, and Jesus has brought that light to save us; indeed, he is the light [John 8:12].”

- Tim Keller
Hidden Christmas