

Witness



2023 Christmas Series: The Word Became Flesh
Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 12.10.23

I. Change Of Focus

Key Truth: See & Show The Signs

II. The Witness Of John The Baptist

John 1:6-8

6 Ambassador

7 Advocate

8 Beneficiary

III. Heralds Of Final Advent

Mid-Week Devotion (Take time to pray & respond to the following)

Christmastime, perhaps more than any other time, draws our attention to the past. The impact of tradition and nostalgia is undeniable in this regard. When we succumb to them, it is right and good that we are filled with happiness, thanksgiving, and love. What is not right or good, however, is for Christians to look no further than the present when celebrating Christmas. Followers of Christ must be forward-focused.

The reality of the First Advent should remind us of the true meaning of Christmas and bind our hearts and wills to our duty to proclaim the future return of Christ. We cannot fully understand or appreciate the First Advent if we give no heed to the urgency for the promotion of the Second. Followers of Christ must both see and be able to show others the signs that confirm that Jesus Christ is the Messiah who will one day return to the world.

How are you showing the true meaning of Christmas in your life? Have you accepted that you are an ambassador of God to the unbelieving world? Are you a willing advocate who publicly proclaims the Gospel? As a beneficiary of God's light in your life, does it reflect off of you through righteous words and works so that the world can see the signs of Jesus' presence and glory?

Prayerfully consider the privilege and duty that all Christians share as recipients of salvation by grace through faith in the Savior. Express praise and thanksgiving to God for making a place for you in His plan. Invite Him to lead you in giving others the same opportunity to be part of the family of God this Christmas and forevermore.