

Advent: The Christ Has Come!
Christmas 2023 @ Fellowship Dallas!

'Fall on Your Knees: The Son of God is Here!'

Intro:

[Image] Who is excited for Christmas? I feel like this guy [Elf] !!

The Starbucks Red Cups are in use / Lights are up / Dads are wearing their ugly Christmas jumpers / songs are playing!

And since it's Christmas we thought we would have a little bit of a Christmas singalong this morning – this is Noah & Tim's top 3 Favorite Christmas songs..

- a. At three – Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree! By Brenda Lee!
- b. At two – The Christmas Song – Nat King Cole
- c. At one – It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! By Meredith Wilson / Michael Buble

Let's give it up for Noah – who needs Michael Buble when we have Noah the legend???? 😊

[Need] And the reason I had us sing those songs – besides wanting a little fun – I wanted to tell you what 1 of my favorite carols is – O Holy Night – & in particular, 1 line – Fall on Your Knees ... O hear the angel voices ...

Why? Why should we fall on our knees before this baby Jesus?

In the Hebrew language – one of the words for worship = bow down / submit / bring absolute honor & allegiance

[Subject] Luke is going to show us, as we start this series, 'The Christ Has Come,' we should fall on our knees in worship before this baby Jesus!

[Text] Turn with me to Luke 1:26-38

I. This Baby Is Given in Stunning Grace (Luke 1:26-31)

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

Sent: (v26b) – 'to be ordered' – in passive he is on a mission from God – reminds me of the 'sent-ness' of God – Missio Dei

Specific Place: (v26c) – 'Nazareth in Galilee' – so small had to specify – E.g. Texas Names [Athens, Ireland, China Earth, Venus, Mars]
– Only 500 people in Nazareth, Overlooked / Forgotten / Lowly ... 'By way of Gentiles' – Outcasts / Far / Lost

Specific Ind & Person. (v27) – Mary, 'a virgin' (x2) – that will be important / 'Line of David' – that's the royal line!

Stunning Grace: (v28, 30) – 'Highly favored' – related to word for grace – 'you who are chosen by grace'
– 'The Lord is with you' – Immanuel

Stunning Savior: (v31) – 'Jesus' – Translation of Hebrew Name – Yeshua – 'Yahweh Saves' – Savior
– Lucado: "God answers the mess and stench of this world with 1 word – GRACE"
– Oswald Chambers: "The overflowing favour of God"
– God's Grace & Love: (a) Set Deep in Heart of God; (b) Shoots forth & Set on People; (c) Never Stops

E.g. – NBC Men's Weekend – being soaked
– MTR – On the First Christmas, God opened the windows of heaven & poured out stunning grace

II. This Baby is a Stunning Gift, Packed with Stunning Greatness (Luke 1:32-33)

You are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.

E.g. Engagement Box just a box on outside, but priceless gold on inside – by which I say 'I love you' / Is. 53:1 – appearance nothing special

Stunning Greatness (v32a) – 'He will be great' ... exceptional / magnificent / extraordinary / pre-eminent / matchless

Son of Most High (v32b, 35) – Most High = Title reserved in OT for God – means supreme, sovereign ruler
– Son = Exact Representation (shares essence of) & Personal Representative
– Cf. v35 – 'Son of God' – He is fully man and fully God

Sovereign Ruler King (v32c-33a) – ‘The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David’ – 2 Sam 7, Revelation 20 – millennial kingdom
‘He will reign over the house of Jacob forever’ – Israel / His Kingdom will know no end

Stunning Gift

- Reveal God – 1 John 1:18 – He has made God known
- Reach a Lost & Broken World in Love – John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that he gave
- Reconcile & Redeem Humanity – Rom 3:23 – wages of sin = death, 2 Cor 5:14 – 1 died for all, It is finished!
- Release Captives from & Smash Satan’s grip – 1 Jn. 3:8 – ‘destroy works devil’ – Cap. Scroll ‘set captives free’
- Rule & Reign as Royal King on David’s Throne – must be human to sit in David’s throne, eternal to be forever

E.g.

- E.g. Queen Elizabeth – ‘I can’t wait to lay my crowns down before Him!’

III. This Baby Comes From a Stunning God (Luke 1:34-38)

³⁴‘How will this be,’ Mary asked the angel, ‘since I am a virgin?’ ³⁵The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For nothing is impossible with God.’ ³⁸‘I am the Lord’s servant,’ Mary answered. ‘May your word to me be fulfilled.’ Then the angel left her.

Nothing is impossible
Now She bows

Nothing for our God! He who formed the heavens, created Adam from dust – a virgin birth = nothing! ☺
‘I’m the Lord’s servant’ – bond-servant / slave / bowing, humble submission w. total allegiance to master / king

IV. Fall On Your Knees! [HP] ...



ADVENT

T H E C H R I S T H A S C O M E





(1) STUNNING GRACE

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LUKE 1:26-31





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Never Stops (Psalm 136)

(2) STUNNING GIFT

You are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

LUKE 1:31B-33

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LUKE 1:34-38



(4) FALL ON YOUR KNEES!