



The Wait Before Christmas

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Titus 2:11-13 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

The People Who Missed The First Christmas

- The Innkeeper missed it because he was preoccupied with _____
- King Herod missed it because he was fearful that another King might take _____
- The religious leaders missed it because they were self-righteous and _____
- The inhabitants of Jerusalem missed it because they were _____
- The entire Roman empire missed it because they had their own gods and _____
- Jesus' hometown of Nazareth missed it because they were too _____ with Him

Malachi 3:16-17 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Three People Who Anticipated The First Christmas

PROSDECHOMAI:

1. SIMEON (Luke 2:25-32)

Luke 2:25-32 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

- His name means " _____ "
- He was waiting for a _____

2. ANNA (Luke 2:36-38)

Luke 2:36-38 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

- Her name means " _____ "
- She was waiting for a _____

3. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA (Luke 23:50-53)

Luke 23:50-53 And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.

- His name means " _____ "
- He was waiting for a _____

Luke 12:34-36 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men

that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;