

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, December 3rd "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Haggai 2:6-9 - *NIV*

⁶ "This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷ I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord Almighty. ⁸ 'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord Almighty. ⁹ 'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the Lord Almighty."

Isaiah 64:1-9 - *NIV*

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!
² As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!
³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.
⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.
⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right,
who remember your ways.
But when we continued to sin against them,
you were angry.
How then can we be saved?
⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.
⁷ No one calls on your name
or strives to lay hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have given us over to our sins.

⁸ Yet you, Lord, are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹ Do not be angry beyond measure, Lord;
do not remember our sins forever.
Oh, look on us, we pray,
for we are all your people.

Advent: Longing

- Our Deepest Longing (Isaiah 64:1-4)
- Our Greatest Need (Isaiah 64: 5-7)
- Our Ongoing Hope (Isaiah 64:8-9)

Takeaway: Advent reminds us of our need for God's intervention in our lives.

Questions

1. What is one hope you have for this Advent season?
2. When Charles Wesley wrote Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, he wasn't picturing "Baby Jesus." He was thinking of the adult king who came to set people free. How can we hold both those images together during Advent?
3. The middle part of this passage (Isaiah 64:5-7) focuses on sin, human limitations, and our need for forgiveness. Why is it uncomfortable to talk about sin? How might genuine confession be meaningful during the Advent season?
4. Isaiah 64:8 presents a powerful image of God as the Potter and us as the clay. What are some practical ways God molds us for His purpose?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20231203.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/HVEpmS9NGi8>