



ADVENT

Are You Ready?

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What is Advent?

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The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*.

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Advent is the season of anticipation leading up to *Epiphany* – the feast that celebrates the revelation of Jesus as our *Divine King*.

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The time for celebrating Epiphany was traditionally set 12 days after Christmas in order to mark the visit of the Magi and their recognition of Christ as King

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In ancient times God's people would spend 40 days anticipating the feast of Epiphany. However, their focus was not on Bethlehem but on the King's coming in glory to judge the world.

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Sometime during the Middle Ages the idea of celebrating Christ's coming was linked backward to include His first coming in Bethlehem


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Today, the Advent season lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time, the twelve-day celebration of Christmastide begins, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on January 6

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The four Sundays before Christmas are celebrated as Advent Sundays and are often marked by lighting candles that anticipate the blessings of Christ coming to His people

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What are the candles for?

1st Sunday:	Hope
2nd Sunday:	Peace
3rd Sunday:	Joy
4th Sunday:	Love
Christmas Day:	Christ

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**Why is it easier to
focus on the baby?**

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A King Rules Over His People

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A King Judges His Enemies

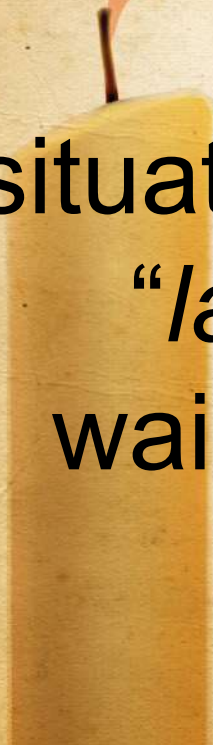
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A King Rewards His Allies

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Advent symbolizes the situation of the church in these “*last days*” as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom.

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**Are We Ready for
Our King's Return?**

A lit candle with a flame, set against a background of aged, yellowed paper with a red border. The candle is positioned at the bottom center, with its flame rising and illuminating the paper. The paper has a textured, slightly mottled appearance with some darker spots and a red border on the left and right sides. The word "ADVENT" is written in a large, serif font across the middle of the page, with the flame appearing to be part of the letter 'V'.

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