

## **Jesus Christ: The Coming King**

Hope Chapel Honolulu  
Revelation 22:12-21 ESV

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.  
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."  
(Revelation 22:12-13, ESV)

### **Introduction**

As many of you may have known before me, the word “advent” comes from the Latin *adventus* which was translated from the Greek *parousia* or “coming.” Scholars say that during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries Advent was a season of preparation for new believers who sought baptism during the January feast of Epiphany—a celebration of God’s incarnation. At that time in history, Advent was marked by 40 days of penance, prayer and fasting. By the 6<sup>th</sup> century, however, believers in Rome had connected Advent with the Second Coming of Christ, and it was not until the Middle Ages that Advent had a clear connection with Christmas. As Advent is normally observed for the four Sundays leading up to Christmas—with the first two Sundays devoted to Christ’s Second Coming and the last two Sundays devoted to Christ’s First Coming—we at Hope Chapel Honolulu will use Advent as an aid to our worship of Christ.

- 1. Worship before discipleship. (Revelation 22:12-15)**
  - a) Knowing God, making Him known, partnering with Him and enjoying God forever.
  - b) Knowing Christ for Who He Was, Is and Is To Come.
- 2. What does it mean to live a Christ-centered life? (Revelation 22:16-19)**
  - a) What are we most looking forward to?
  - b) Prophecy, the tree of life and the New Jerusalem.
- 3. A brief overview of the First and Second Comings of Christ. (Revelation 22:20-21)**
  - a) The first and second Advents of Christ.
  - b) Grace + Truth / Time = Growth

### **Conclusion**

It is my hope that Advent will be a helpful tool to help you and I to better understand and appreciate the significance of Christmas and see it as more than a historical event to celebrate, but as God’s evidence of an Advent yet to come. Karl Barth is credited with the following words: “Unfulfilled and fulfilled promise are related to each other, as are dawn and sunrise. Both are promise and in fact the same promise. If anywhere at all, then it is precisely in the light of the coming of Christ that faith has become Advent faith, the expectation of future revelation. But faith knows for whom and for what it is waiting. It is fulfilled faith because it lays hold on the fulfilled promise.” You can find that Advent video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCoFGQLBp7w&feature=youtu.be>

### **For our prayerful study, discussion and application:**

- 1) What are the purposes of worship and discipleship here at Hope Chapel Honolulu?
- 2) What are the two “advents” of Christ and what do they mean to you?
- 3) How can and will you share hope with your family, neighbors and friends this Advent season?

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