

## EXPECTANT WAITING: ADVENT DEVOTIONAL



The world was waiting--waiting with bated breath for the promise of a Savior. This was the hope of the prophets of old, and this still is our hope today. While the Advent season reminds us that the saints of days long ago waited in hope for Christ to come, it also reminds us that we are waiting in hope for Him to return. Lord, we don't want to be like the Pharisees who hoped for a different kind of kingdom and a different kind of king; we want to set our hope in the true Savior, Jesus. Your Word says that this hope will not put us to shame or lead to disappointment, and so we unreservedly trust in You, Your ways, and Your timing.

### **REFLECT**

The season of Advent reminds us that, like the faithful believers of old, we also are waiting in hope for Christ. We are called to have our hearts in readiness for His return.

### **QUESTION**

How might God be encouraging you to live with deeper hope of His return?  
How might He be challenging you to prepare your heart?

### **POSSIBLE ANSWER(S)**

Perhaps God is using this Advent season to remind you that the true joy of Christmas is found in Him. Ask yourself: If you stripped away the gifts, the lights, the food, the festivities, the traditions-- could you still find joy? Perhaps reflecting on this will encourage you to not get swept up in the stress of the holidays but to instead cherish the moments of joy God gives, and to want to share that with others.

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