

BIBLICAL REFLECTION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent begins not with sentimentality but with a call: Wake up! Paul urges us to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Jesus warns his followers to stay alert, for the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night. Isaiah dares to imagine nations streaming to the mountain of the Lord, beating swords into ploughshares, and walking in the light of God's peace.

We live in a world lulled to sleep by busyness, by consumption, by despair. But Advent shakes us awake. It tells us that history is not closed, that God is not finished, that light is breaking in even now. We are invited to live differently - to clothe ourselves with Christ, to resist the tyranny of greed, fear, and violence, and to walk in hope.

The season of Advent is not only about waiting for Christ's coming at the end of time or remembering his birth long ago. It is about opening our eyes to his presence here and now, on this ordinary day. Wake up, people of God! The night is far gone, the day is near. Come, Lord Jesus.