

Series: The Child of Promise & Fulfillment – Part 1

First Sunday in Advent – 2021

Saturday, 11/27 at 4:00 & Sunday, 11/28 at 9:00

Series: The Child of Promise & Fulfillment

The Price of Adoption



www.BLC7500.com

Text: Isaiah 59:2; Galatians 4:4-5

Advent Wednesdays: Service at 11 & 7; Free Meals at 12 & 6

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: **Happy New Year!** Today we begin ☞ *the new church year*, ☞ *the season of Advent*, and ☞ *a 7-part Advent sermon series*.

1. **The Church Year: There are six seasons:**

- a. Advent – *Jesus is coming!*
- b. Christmas – *Jesus is born!*
- c. Epiphany – *Jesus is God!*
- d. Lent – *Jesus paid our penalty!*
- e. Easter – *Jesus is risen!*
- f. Pentecost / Trinity – *Through Jesus we live!*

2. **Advent:**

- a. Advent means coming, namely, *the first and second comings of the Christ!*
- b. Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth – a time of joy, *yet we keep remembering that He was born to die – for our salvation!*
- c. Advent is a penitential season, thus a time to
♦remember our sins, ♦be sorry for them, ♦turn from them, and ♦draw close to Jesus!
- d. The color for Advent is **blue** – like the sky; *Jesus' second coming will be on the clouds of heaven!*

3. **7-Part Advent Sermon Series:** This year at Bethlehem, the season of Advent will be united with one 7-part sermon series – *covering four weekends (Sat and Sun) and three Wednesdays*. The series is called: **The Child of Promise & Fulfillment**. This is a summary:

- a. Today: The Price of Adoption (Galatians 4:4, 5)
- b. **12/1: The Messengers Are Promised** (Malachi 3:1)
- c. **12/4&5: God Has Prepared Our Ransom** (Luke 1:67-75)
- d. **12/8: The Sun of Righteousness Is Promised** (Malachi 4:1-3)
- e. **12/11&12: Good News: Sinners Can Be Saved** (Luke 1:76-79)
- f. **12/15: God Finally Speaks After a 400-Year Pause** (Luke 1:5a, 11-13)
- g. **12/18&19: We are All Traveling, But on What Road?** (Matthew. 11:7-11)

4. **Part 1 – The Price of Adoption:**

- a. What is adoption? Adoption is “legally taking another's child and bringing it up as one's own” (Oxford Languages). So, adoption is not only agreeing to provide shelter and food, *but adoption is gifting a child with all the rights and privileges of being a full member of your family!*
- b. How much does adoption cost? The prices vary; **up to** ♦\$1,000 for an older child from the county, ♦\$25,000 for a newborn from a non-profit agency, and ♦\$66,000 for an international adoption. In other words, people who choose to adopt are willing to ♦*pay a significant amount up front* and ♦*commit to a lifetime of love and ongoing expenses.*
- c. Our separation from God: Isaiah 59:2 NAS
“...your iniquities [sins] have made a separation between you and your God...” We have caused the separation, *but we cannot fix the separation.* For example, with some door locks, we can walk out and close the door, *but we cannot get back in!* Furthermore, God cannot simply open the door to us – *because doing so would compromise His perfect justice.* In other words, our sins ♦*are crimes against God* and ♦*must be punished!*
- d. God's work to adopt us: Because of God's awesome love for us, *He was willing to pay the GREATEST PRICE to remove the dividing wall and bring us back into His family!* ♦Before creation, *God planned what He would do to adopt us;* ♦then, during the OT era, *God reminded us of His plan;* ♦then, when the time was right, *God*

executed His plan! The Bible says, “...when the time finally came, **God** [the Father] sent out **His Son** to be born of a woman and to be born under law, in order to pay the price to free **[redeem]** those under law that we might be adopted as **[God’s]** full-fledged sons” (Galatians 4:4-5 NET).

- i. Since we were helpless, *God acted!*
- ii. Since our debt is so HUGE, *only the very Son of God could pay our debt!*
- iii. Since we have failed to live without sin, *the Son of God put on flesh and lived a sinless life in our place!*
- iv. Since our sins deserve eternal punishment, *Jesus received our sins and our eternal punishment!*
- v. Since the HUGE adoption price has now been paid, God is inviting everyone to
♦repent, ♦believe in Jesus, and ♦be members of His holy family forevermore!

Conclusion:

- **Truth** – Sin separated all people from God.
- **Relevance** – All are helpless to fix the separation.
- **Inspiration** – Jesus paid the full price for our adoption.

Let Us Pray: Dear Father, we were so expensive to adopt, yet *You paid the full price through Jesus!* Fill us with gratitude and grant us a blessed season of Advent!

Website: www.blc7500.com (our short URL); **YouTube-watch:** Benefit from the Bible
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