

Advent:

We are already in the threshold of Advent season. The four weeks of Advent represent the four thousand years the Israelites spent waiting for the Messiah. It would be wonderful to spend the advent season simply waiting for the Baby in the manger. For a Christian, advent should be a time of quiet meditation and joyful expectation. During this season the church invites us to enter into Virgin Mary's experience in order to bring Christ into the world.

During advent we reflect on God's in-breaking in history. As we look forward to celebrate God's love manifested on earth, we have to invite Him to break into our lives afresh so as to do away with all sorts of darkness. And it is a good time for us to worship and adore the true Light that enlightens everyone- a light that shines in darkness which the darkness cannot overcome. The Lord's coming is to welcome his people to share divine life. For it is in and through Jesus God's love breaks into our lives.

Many a times Jesus told his disciples to stay awake, and pay more attention to their discipleship. They are also asked to live in total readiness and constant vigilance lest they become drowsy and wander off from their lives' duties. For it is easy to drift away and be on the surface without getting involved. To live in such condition is like they will be seen every where but in reality present nowhere.

The gospel encourages us to lead a life of holiness and always be conscious of the presence of God with us. And also think about how Jesus comes to us everyday healing and restoring us. St. Paul tells us to conduct ourselves in such a way as to please God. He wants us to be blameless in holiness and love: and to radiate that holiness and love. Let our waiting for the Lord Jesus be an active and gracious waiting. It can be done fundamentally through prayer and works of mercy. If we live with certain expectancy, accompanied by consistent eagerness to do God's will, then we will be standing tall with heads high at the coming of Christ and will rejoice with the entire universe. What we do while we wait is as important as the event

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