

Life Group Notes – 9th Dec 2018
Hell, Judgement and the Justice of God

Main reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Advent – ‘coming’

- How do you mark advent?
- What is the importance of advent for you?
- Have you any encouragements from advent reflections/preparation that you can share?

Advent is a time when we reflect on the first coming (birth of Christ), but also prepare ourselves for and anticipate his second coming.

Hell

Sometimes used as a generic term to describe the resting place of the dead. Mt 25:46 implies that there will be eternal punishment and some verses refer to fires & torment (Mt 13:42).

- What is your view/understanding of hell? (Gen 37:35, Acts 2:27, Num 16:30, Ps 18:5, Ps.9:17, Rev 20:13, Mt 25: 41-46, 2Thes.1:9, 139:7-8 and more....)

Whatever our view on hell, the Bible is clear that death and hell have been defeated (Rev 1:18, Ro 6:9, Jn 11:25, Ro 6:23, 1 Co. 15) and if we accept Christ we have been saved by grace for eternal life.

Judgement

Although we've been saved, the Bible is also clear that we will be held accountable for the lives we've lived (Mt 25:32, Ro 14:10, Lk 12:48).

- Why is the message of God's judgement and justice also one of hope?
- What privileges have you been given?
- How are you using those privileges to serve God/advance the kingdom?

This Advent:

Prayerfully reflect on how we can best prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ, how can we use the privilege we've been given in His service to advance the kingdom of God?

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