

**Our theme for today: Sons and daughters**

The Bible speaks of us as servants, the Bible even speaks of us as soldiers, but the Bible also speaks of us as sons and daughters.

Scripture

*“you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”*

*Luke 1:31-33*

Thought provokers

- The word *son* is mentioned two times in the above passage. In the first mention, we find that the son is connected to things earthbound. In the second mention, we find that the child will be called the Son of the Most High – connecting Him to things of Heaven. Which is more important to you today? That Jesus is a man, or that He is the Son of God from Heaven?

Reflections

The Apostle Paul wrote a strong message to the church in Galatia. Here is what he said:

*“when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.”*  
*Gal. 4:4-7*

Yesterday, we were reminded of the incredible miracle of God creating a Son from the Spirit in the womb of an earthbound woman. Truly miraculous. God can do things like that. He really can turn nothing into something. Mary was a virgin, but by God’s Spirit a child would come forth. We learn much of this Son as we read Scripture. A well-known passage is the entrance of Jesus into ministry where we find God (in heaven) declaring, *“this is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased (Matthew 3:17)”*. It’s marvelous! God sends a Son; a Son He loves. What though, does that really have to do with us? Well, Paul tells us! God sent His Son so that we could be redeemed! And we needed redeeming, didn’t we? We were lost in our sins. But God came for us! He cares, He loves us. But we find yet another purpose of God’s. He came to redeem us in order that we too might become sons and daughters.

This advent season, as we think of Jesus, we see Him described here as One who has the throne of David; He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and, of His Kingdom there will be no end. This person, Jesus, is truly glorious, so glorious we might even think Him too far, too lofty for us. And yes, He is from the Most High, yet we should also remember He is a Son. Lofty, and majestic and magnificent, yet a Son. And, we too are sons and daughters by faith as well. All of us can have the same Father as Jesus! Truly, we are no longer slaves, but we are sons and daughters! Sons and daughters, how marvelously gloriously loving!

### Prayer and Song

Take time to pray and sing praises to Him. Here is one by W. Chatterton Dix.

#### ***What Child is this***

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?*

#### ***Chorus:***

*This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading. [Chorus]*

*So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him. [Chorus]*