

1st Week of Advent – Year C

- I. One of my favorite parts of Scripture is to study the Prophets
Through the prophets the word goes forth, takes root and bears fruit.

GOD'S WORD ALWAYS BEARS FRUIT

For this to happen:

1. Prophets cooperate with God – “come so close to God they speak God’s heart”
2. Prophets see the sign of the times in light of Covenant

Two kinds of Covenant

Unconditional – Noah – David

Conditional – Moses – Jeremiah “Hearts of Stone to hearts of flesh – IF
But they knew Davidic covenant
People did not obey – they did not repent

Jeremiah and Israel were taken away into Babylonian Captivity

In Exile - Jeremiah recalled Davidic Covenant – Unconditional

Davidic Covenant still in place

Jeremiah knew God would be faithful – but God had to be just

He had to cut the dynasty down to just a stump

“I will raise up for David a just shoot”

1. For David – God’s going to act because of the Davidic Covenant
2. A just shoot – a new beginning – this generation dies in exile, the children return
God is faithful & just

- II. Same with us – God’s Justice assures us that Jesus MUST come

- Creation was not made to be left captive to sin
- Promises were made – Covenant is real – God’s Word cannot be revoked
- ***So – Hope of Jeremiah continues in Luke***

- Signs in the sun and moon LOOK AROUND
- *Nations will be in dismay* Wars & rumors of Wars
- People will die in fright Aids an epidemic in Africa

NOW WHAT

- Be ready, be vigilant – “the Son of Man will come with power and great glory” & when you see these things
 - Stand erect Confident in trial
 - Raise your heads Hope
 - Your redemption is at hand Just like JER in Exile

recall fidelity of God

- III. We say Luke is talking about the 2nd Coming – the end of time

- In Advent we acknowledge Jesus comes 3 times, not 2
 - Jesus came in Bethlehem
 - 2nd coming, for us, is when He comes in our hearts
 - 3rd coming is when He comes in glory
- In Advent we recall Bethlehem
- We recall how He loves Us – day by day, no matter what/where
 - Like Jeremiah in Exile – in our trial, in our sin, in our ...
- We look in Hope to His coming in Glory