## Pastor Bill Butler

## 2nd Sunday of Advent, 12/04/16

ADVENT OF THE SAVIOR: PART I Ephesians 2: 1-10

1. At this time of year, as we celebrate <u>ADVENT</u>, our awareness of the world's need for the hope of Christ and the anticipation of His return should be on our hearts.

2. Remembering who we were <u>PRIOR</u> to receiving Christ should create a desire in us to see Christ's promise fulfilled at His return.

3. God the Father <u>RAISED</u> Christ from the tomb by a supernatural act. So, too, he supernaturally raises our dead souls to spiritual life.

4. In being alive to disobedience we are dead to obedience. In being alive to rebellion we are dead to submission. In being alive to unbelief we are dead to <u>FAITH</u>.

5. Before Christ created a <u>LIVING</u> soul in us, whatever thoughts we thought or whatever feelings we felt or whatever deeds we did were not the thoughts or feelings or deeds of the spirit but of the flesh.

6. God made us for his own good pleasure. His ownership of us is an expression of his deep sacrificial love. Therefore, he is worthy of <u>ALL</u> of our love, trust, honor, obedience and worship.

7. The mind of flesh cannot comprehend God for it has no spiritual wisdom <u>APART</u> from God. Until God creates new life in our souls, we are of the flesh and know not God.

8. Prior to redemption, a man is so perverted in his thinking that when he hears the truth of the gospel, he regards it as <u>FOOLISHNESS</u>.

9. An unredeemed person may <u>APPEAR</u> to be clean and righteous before men but before God is filled with decay, hypocrisy and sin.

10. *"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in him who sent me has <u>ETERNAL</u> life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life." John 5:24* 

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