

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////



Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends or your group.

For Discussion:

1. How will you begin to listen to Christmas music differently this year?
2. Charles Wesley packed a lot of theology into these two verses. What is your favorite line

and why?

3. How do the two songs that we studied contrast and compare in your thoughts?

4. What are some of your favorite Christmas carols and why? (The ones that we will study in this series are below.)

THE CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS SERIES

Nov 28, 2021 — Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Dec 5, 2021 — Angels from the Realms of Glory

Dec 12, 2021 — O Little Town of Bethlehem

Dec 19, 2021 — Silent Night

Dec 24, 2021 — Away in a Manger

Dec 26, 2021 — O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Jan 2, 2022 — Auld Lang Syne



November 27 & 28, 2021 | Carols of Christmas #1 | Pastor Dennis Miller

TWO PURPOSES FOR THIS SERIES

1. To understand the importance of MUSIC for teaching, worship, and more throughout ALL generations and cultures.

Psa. 69:30 I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.

2. To think more CAREFULLY and worshipfully about the WORDS that we sing each Christmas season.

Eccl. 5:2 Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven (ESV)

TWO SONGS OF EXPECTANCY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON:

1. The BETTER-known Christmas song
— *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town.*

What does this song teach?

- a. You should be FEARFUL.
- b. He keeps a LIST of your wrongs.
- c. He knows EVERYTHING that you do — ALL the time.
- d. If you've been very GOOD, you may be REWARDED.
- e. He is a totally FICTIONAL character.



2. The LESSER known Christmas song —
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus.

WHAT DOES THIS SONG TEACH?

Verse 1 — Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;

1. It begins by looking BACKWARDS and FORWARD. How was Jesus “long-expected?” There are 574 verses in the Old Testament that speak of the Lord’s COMING to earth. The stories, the sacrifices, the holidays, and the symbols SPEAK of JESUS.



— from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

2. Mankind was LOST in sin and in SLAVERY to that sin. There was no hope and no REST.

Heb. 2:14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Matt. 11:28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

— Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;

3. Israel was awaiting someone to CONSOLE them. The whole planet was searching for HOPE.

Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel,

Jer. 14:8 You who are the hope of Israel, its Savior in times of distress,

— dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

4. Whether they recognized the NEED or not, everyone was DESIRING the One who could provide true JOY.

Hag. 2:7 I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the LORD Almighty.

1Pet. 1:8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Verse 2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,

1. Jesus’ purpose for coming to earth was CLEAR. He would REDEEM the people. He was a KING even at His birth.

Gal. 4:4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Matt. 2:2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

— born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

2. Jesus LIVES in us through the Holy Spirit, and we are awaiting His RETURN!

2Cor. 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Rev. 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

— By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;

3. We want Him to be our ONLY true KING.

Deut. 33:27 The eternal God is your refuge, . . .

Col. 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

— by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

4. Because of WHO He is, He is able to USHER us into His holy presence.

Eph. 2:4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

THE BIG PICTURE — TWO DIFFERENT SONGS OF ANTICIPATION

1. One brings FEAR while the other provides PEACE.

2. One causes FRENZY while the other gives CALM.

3. One is based on man’s GOODNESS while the other is based on God’s MERIT.

4. One is FICTION while the other is about the One whose Name is TRUTH!