

ADVENT # 1 – WHY JESUS CAME
JESUS CAME TO PURIFY US
Malachi 2:17-3:5; 4:1-2
December 6, 2009

1. Jesus Came to Purify Us –

Christmas Past – Our Foundation

The problems:

† **What we value** (2:17; 3:15 – calling *evil good*)

† **What we say** (3:13-14)

† **What we do (or *don't do*)** (3:5ff, 18)

† **What we think of ourselves** (3:15; 4:1)

2. Jesus is Purifying Us –

Christmas Present – Our Life

† **It is God's will, for all who are His, that we should become like Jesus Christ.**

1 Thess. 4:3

Rom. 8:29

“*Christians*”

† **Only that which is good and pure in us will last for eternity.**

(Eph. 6:14)

3:2-3

1 Cor. 3:12-13

Phil. 2:12-13

† **The foundational proof that a person belongs to Jesus is his/her ability to say, from the heart, “Jesus is Lord.”**

Romans 10:9-10

Romans 8:7-8

1 Cor. 12:3

3. Jesus is Coming Back to Purify Us –

Christmas Future – Our Hope (3:1-3; 3:17-4:2)

Heb. 12:28-29

Who can stand Christmas?

Who can endure the day of His coming? Who can stand when He appears?

† Those who are clothed in righteousness

† Those who love and long for His appearing

† Those who have had their hearts changed by a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit

† Those whose heart's desire is to be in His Presence and, seeing Him face to face, to worship Him acceptably with reverence and awe

† Those who, fully acknowledging that He is Lord, long to be freed from sin and anything that dishonors or denies Him...

A Truth to Remember: When Jesus comes again it will be as a conquering judge.

A Challenge to Consider: Are you investing in eternity, desiring and striving to be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus, embracing the gospel more and more each day?

One thing I heard this morning was...