



LISTENING GUIDE

Rev. Deane Harrison

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The Wonder of the Baby

Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 40

Today marks the beginning of Advent—a season of *anticipation* and *preparation* that leads to a celebration of Christ’s birth. This year, our journey through the Advent season will help us capture the wonder of Christmas as we study God’s Word. And one of the greatest wonders of Christmas is the birth of a baby unlike any other—Jesus Christ. Let’s examine our Scripture passages, then, to discover *the wonder of the baby*.

I. The _____ of God (Matthew 1:23)

- Immanuel = “*God with us*”
 1. A _____ Presence
 - Foretold by the prophet Isaiah (*Isaiah 7:14; 9:6*) and the angel Gabriel (*Luke 1:30–31*)
 2. A _____ Presence
 - Throughout Scripture: Eden (*Genesis 3:8*), the tabernacle, and the temple
 3. A _____ Presence
 - Jesus is not a symbol of God, but God in the flesh (*Colossians 1:15; 2:9*)

II. The _____ of God (Isaiah 40)

- Six descriptions of God's character revealed in *Isaiah 40*:
 1. _____ Lord (*vv.6-8, 21-23*)
 2. Infinite _____ (*v.12*)
 - See *Colossians 1:16*
 3. _____ One (*vv.13-14, 18-20*)
 - See *Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 4:14-15*

4. Sovereign _____ (*vv.14-15*)
5. Powerful _____ (*v.26*)
 - See *Colossians 1:17*
6. Gentle _____ (*v.11*)
 - See *John 10:11*

Making it Stick:

1. How does the truth of “God with us” impact your view of Christmas?
2. How can you give your heart more fully to Jesus this season?