



Advent Conspiracy Bible Study
Pastor Frank Thomas
December 16, 2009

Fourth Principle of Advent Conspiracy: Love All

The fact that Jesus was born to a poor family is evidence that God loves all – when God voted Jesus' birth – God voted poor

First, Jesus became poor for our sake – 2 Corinthians 8:9 – “that we might gain great riches through his humble poverty.”

Look at Mary's Magnificat – Luke 1:46-55

- 1) First shows Mary's familiarity with Scripture and deep personal piety – OT texts (modeled after Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10)
- 2) A God who vindicates the downtrodden and ministers to the hungry – nobles are toppled from their place of power – social justice message
- 3) Shows Mary's knowledge of the coming Messiah and her role as the dawning of the kingdom of God comes
- 4) Four parts a) vs. 46-48 – praise God for what he has done for Mary b) vs. 49-50 praise of the attributes of God – power, holiness, and mercy, c) vs. 51-53 – God's sovereign action in reversing Israel's social condition, d) vs. 54-55 recall God's mercy to Israel

Magnificat means – to enlarge the greatness of the Lord – or tell out of the greatness of the Lord. By choosing Mary – God voted with the poor

Christmas is a relational event and not a consumer event

- 1) The best gifts celebrate a relationship
- 2) When we make time to be with someone – it is a gift – a relational gift
- 3) God's answer for the world's problems has never been material things – he gave a relational gift

Now it is our turn to enter the story – Christmas can change the world – Matthew 25:40

- 1) Take the money that you would have spent on consumer gifts and donate to an organization that helps the poor
- 2) Volunteer at Hope House, Dozier House, Manna Outreach, Hope and Healing
- 3) Your ideas