

The Power of Jesus

The gospel for this coming Sunday (Fourth Sunday in Advent) is Luke 1:39-45. This reading is a narrative of when Mary went to visit Elizabeth while both were pregnant.

As Mary greeted Elizabeth, the baby (John the Baptist) leapt in Elizabeth's womb. Even as an unborn child Jesus made an impact. Jesus is still a power in our lives. In this Advent season, it is he that we are preparing for and makes a difference in how we go about getting ready for to celebrate his first coming (Christmas). There is a popular phrase that is used this time of year: "Jesus is the reason for the season" that illustrates his clout.

During Advent we also look forward Jesus second coming. It is at time that Jesus will make a huge impression on events of that day. Philippians 2:9-11 says it well when Paul states: ⁹ *Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,* ¹⁰ *so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,* ¹¹ *and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

In verse 43 Elizabeth makes a very logical statement: "*And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?*" This is one of first of many "great reversals" that Luke makes in his gospel. The greatest reversal of all was Jesus' dying the cross for our sins. What is more is that Jesus still comes to with his Word and Lord's Supper. He does not wait for us to come to him but he comes to us at all of the times of needs at just the right time and circumstance.

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for always reaching out to us with your saving power. Help us to continue to be thankful for your loving presence and undeserved love.