



"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
Advent 2020 Series: Carols for the King

Introduction:

"My soul magnifies the Lord. My spirit rejoices in God my savior." (Luke 2:46ff.)

O come, all ye faithful. Joyful and triumphant. O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him. Born the King of Angels! O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him. Christ the Lord

I. The Sacred History of the Carol

"Adeste Fideles laeti triumphantes, Venite, venite in Bethlehem. Natum videte, Regem Angelorum. Venite adoremus, venite adoremus, venite adoremus, Dominum."

Jesus' birth was proclaimed "by a great company of the heavenly host praising God and declaring the words of Luke 2:14: "Glory to God in the highest..."

II. The Theological Lessons from the Carol

Theological Lesson 1: The carol calls us to come and gather.

"Adeste....O come..."

Matt 2:2 "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him."

Theological Lesson 2: The carol calls us to come and gather with fellow believers.

*"Adeste Fideles....O come, all ye faithful..." * "Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!"*

Philippians 3:20-21 "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our lowly condition into conformity with His glorious body, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself."

Our Special Campus Bible Church Invitation "to come and gather" ...

Theological Lesson 3: The carol calls us to sing in joy and victory.

"O come, all ye faithful. Joyful and triumphant."

2 Corinthians 2:14 "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place."

Theological Lesson #4: The carol calls us to reflect on the prophecies regarding Christ's coming.

"O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem..."

"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will come forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His times of coming forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity." (Micah 5:2)

Theological Lesson #5: The carol calls us to behold Him.

^Come and behold Him..."

*Open my eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus. To reach out and touch Him and say that we love Him.
Open our ears Lord and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus.*

Theological Lesson #6: The carol calls us to behold the One who is "born."

*"Word of the Father.....now in flesh appearing" * "...abhors not the virgin's womb." (Isaiah 7:14)*

John 1:1,14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Titus 2:11 "For the grace of God (Christ) has appeared (Greek: *epiphany...from which we get the word epiphany*) bringing salvation to all men."

Jesus Christ was the grace and truth of God with skin on!

Theological Lesson #7: The carol calls us to behold the One who is born the King of Angels.

From the Kingly Crown in Heaven. To the Humble Cradle in Bethlehem. To the Cruel Cross in Jerusalem.
Back to the Kingly Crown in Heaven

Gloria in excelsis deus...Glory to God in the highest

Theological Lesson 8: The carol calls us to respond in adoration of Christ the Lord.

"O come, let us adore Him...Christ the Lord." (Venite adoremus, venite adoremus, venite adoremus, Dominum)

"May we too make haste with exultant gait." (i.e. Run to worship Him!)

- **We ADORE Him by SINGING**

"Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation. Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!"

- **We ADORE Him by REMEMBERING**

"Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus to Thee be glory given."

Luke 2:19 "...Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart."

- **We ADORE Him by RECITING**

Nicene Creed: “I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth...”

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scripture; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

- **We ADORE Him by COMING**

i.e. coming to know Him in a more personal way.

“O Come, let us adore Him. Christ the Lord.”

We sing carols to those who are missing . . .

Discussion Questions:

1. What is your favorite Christmas carol or song?
2. What one part of “O Come All Ye Faithful” touches your heart the most? Why?
3. How do you personally keep adoration and worship in focus during the holidays?
4. What did you get most out of this message?