

CHRISTMAS ISN'T CANCELED - WE'RE JUST WAITING!

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

2nd Week of Advent – Waiting in Peace Actively

December 12, 2020

Text: Ephesians 4:20-24

Meditation:

We finish this week with a reminder that we are to be actively waiting in peace for Jesus' return. Paul has some more ideas of how we can be active while we wait in peace. Please read the text for today.

Paul says that since we have heard about and know Jesus, we need to throw off our sinful selves. In other words, stop excusing your sinfulness and resist the temptations. We should actually be attentive every day to where we allow the world to rule in our lives rather than Christ. Consider the excuses you use to not follow Christ's ways:

1. I have too much other stuff to do today.
2. I know Jesus didn't really mean we should/shouldn't do that.
3. Jesus will forgive me if I do it.

During Advent we are reminded that these excuses won't fly once we know Jesus. The expectation is that while wait in peace for Jesus' return, we will be actively working with the Holy Spirit to live out in faith the lifestyle Jesus calls us too. No longer will we have one foot in the world and one foot in God's kingdom, but we will actively move into a life with Jesus completely. We will live committed and devoted lives. Not when it is convenient but every moment of every day. So, when Jesus' arrival comes, we will be ready to offer our best, rags that they may be, to Christ our King. Another perk about actively pursuing a transformed and fully committed life is that we will always "*sleep in heavenly peace.*"

What sinful nature do you need to throw off so as to live in peace with Christ?

What does a full commitment to living peacefully in Christ look like to you? To Paul?

Prayer:

Lord, forgive me for trying to always have it my way instead of yours. May your Holy Spirit actively work with me and in me transforming my mind and choices so that they honor you and bring peace between us. Amen.

