

Advent

Week Three: Broken Chains of Sin

Sunday, December 14, 2025

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21 (NIV84)

1. The _____ of our captivity.

A. _____-

"The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶ But the LORD God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—¹⁷ except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

Genesis 2:15–17 (NLT)

"The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷ At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves."

Genesis 3:6–7 (NLT)

B. _____.

"... sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men..."

Romans 5:12 (NIV84)

Sin: _____.

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."

Romans 3:23 (NLT)

Sinned: _____.

C. _____.

"Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." ¹⁴ How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone."

James 4:13–14 (NLT)

2. The _____ of our captivity.

A. Out of _____ with God.

"So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made."

Genesis 3:23 (NLT)

"Listen! The LORD's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call. ² It's your sins that have cut you off from God..."

Isaiah 59:1–2a (NLT)

B. Distortion of our true _____.

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

"Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us..."

Genesis 1:26a (NLT)

"In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes."

Judges 21:25 (NLT)

C. _____.

"At that time you did not know about Christ. You were foreigners to the people of Israel, and you had no part in the promises that God had made to them. You were living in this world without hope and without God..."

Ephesians 2:12 (CEV)

3. _____ from our captivity.

"Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. ¹⁵ Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying."

Hebrews 2:14–15 (NLT)

"In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He existed in the beginning with God. ³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. ⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it...¹⁴ So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son."

John 1:1–5, 14 (NLT)

4. The _____ in freedom.

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

Matthew 1:23 (NKJV)

"Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! ² Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!"

Psalms 32:1–2 (NLT)

Am I Living in the Joy of Christmas?