

December 4, 2022  
**“Much Love. Hope Sent.”**  
**(Matthew 3:1-11)**

What brings you \_\_\_\_\_ this Advent season?

This Bible story is usually read as a message of \_\_\_\_\_, but I think it’s overwhelmingly a message of \_\_\_\_\_!

Robert McAfee Brown’s description of Jesus at Christmas:  
*“A small center of sanity in a large and crazy world.”*

What we celebrate at Christmas is that Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the message of much love, hope sent!

The word used for “repent” means “to \_\_\_\_\_ differently” or “to change the inner person.”

Repentance changes both your \_\_\_\_\_ and your \_\_\_\_\_!

The promise and hope of Christmas is that...

**1.- In Jesus, we have a new \_\_\_\_\_.**

When God wanted to show us His love, purposes and power in \_\_\_\_\_, He came in the person of Jesus Christ!

During Advent we realize more than ever that the priorities of this world are \_\_\_\_\_ and contrary to God’s kingdom!

We can put our hope and \_\_\_\_\_ fully in Him because he embodies the use of power in the \_\_\_\_\_ of love!

Helmut Thielicke: “Where Christ is King, everything is \_\_\_\_\_!”

**2.- In Jesus, we have a new \_\_\_\_\_.**

John baptized people in the \_\_\_\_\_ River.  
(over)

When God’s people crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land, they crossed over into \_\_\_\_\_ and new life!

Our \_\_\_\_\_ represents our crossing over from \_\_\_\_\_ to new life in Jesus Christ!

As John Chrysostom said:  
*“Let us astound them by our way of \_\_\_\_\_!”*

**3.- In Jesus, we have a new \_\_\_\_\_.**

If we’ve been baptized into new life with Jesus, our new purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of heaven above all else!

You follow a different King, are living a new life, and have found a new purpose because you have \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ!

Do you have the kingdom of heaven in you?

That’s the hope and promise of Christmas that you can receive today!