

The Calling of Christmas

Isaiah 40:1-44

**This document may be downloaded to your personal device and the spaces filled in so you may take notes while listening to the sermon.*

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 (ESV) ¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.
2. God often uses _____.
3. 1 Peter 3:20-21 (ESV) ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
4. Exodus 14:21 (ESV) ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.
5. Joshua 3:13 (ESV) ¹³ And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap."
6. Christmas is a calling to God's _____.
7. Romans 5:10 (ESV) ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.
8. Our war ended when the wages of sin were _____.
9. Mark 3:29 (ESV) ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—
10. 2 Corinthians 6:2 (ESV) ² For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.
11. Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV) ¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
12. Isaiah 40:3-5 (ESV) ³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the

LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

13. Christmas is a calling from God’s _____.
14. Matthew 3:1-2 (ESV) ¹ In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
15. Matthew 4:17 (ESV) ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
16. God is always preparing for the coming of the Messiah by the _____ of His servants.
17. Acts 1:8 (ESV) ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
18. We clear the _____ for salvation.
19. Isaiah 40:6-8 (ESV) ⁶ A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.
20. Christmas calls from God’s _____.
21. We only have a temporary time to _____ in the message of Christmas.
22. We only have a temporary time to _____ the message of Christmas.
23. John 5:28-29 (ESV) ²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.
24. Hebrews 9:27 (ESV) ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,
25. God’s word will be proclaimed _____.
26. Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
27. Isaiah 40:9-11 (ESV) ⁹ Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.
28. Christmas calls us into God’s _____.

29. God is _____to deliver.
30. However, the living word of God taught by the Holy Spirit _____us all of our lives.
31. What do we learn from this growing knowledge of God?
32. We learn more deeply how much He _____us.
33. We learn more deeply how He is able to _____us through our difficulties.
34. We learn more deeply to _____in Him even if He doesn't deliver us from our difficulties.
35. We know the love of God has _____and we take a step closer to_____Him like we will _____Him in heaven.
36. Deliverance here in this place _____when the desire to go home grows.
37. We will never know the full power of God's _____until we enter His heaven.
38. God tends to us like a _____tends to his sheep.
39. God will _____us.

My Notes: