



(Food for thought - Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6)

## **“Prepare the Way ... Maranatha”**

This is a season of expectation and of hope. It is a time for us to listen again to God's promise of deliverance and reconciliation. It is a time for us to be reassured of His relentless love for each and all of us.

Perhaps we still walk along crooked paths. We might find it much easier to take detours around the Gospel challenges of Christian justice. There are still hills of conflict and valleys of depression on the road we walk. And we find ourselves so busy! There just doesn't seem to be enough time to worship and to pray. Our energies are all used up with work and home and family, and preparations for the Christmas

holiday. But Jesus is waiting, patiently, compassionately. He wants so very much to come into each of our lives - completely and totally. So we try again during these special days of Advent to clear the way for Him.

The central message of our Advent is that the Lord has come, He has taken away the curse of our sins, He has baptized us in the Holy Spirit, He has comforted us; He has come like a good shepherd to gather the lambs in His arms.

But His coming is an ongoing mystery. He needs us and uses us to "make straight His paths." We are called to hasten His coming in our own time and place. We continue to "prepare the way of the Lord." We continue to proclaim the "good news": *'Jesus, Emmanuel, God-With-Us, has Come, is Coming and will*

*come!*



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