


# LOOKING UP

January-February 2025



*"...look up, and lift  
up your heads."  
Lk. 21:24*

## *Things Done & Undone*

BY PASTOR JASON SALMI

The aftermath of the holiday season, which builds up to and culminates at Christmas, and then trickles on to our celebration of the New Year, has a way of leaving some with a sense of hollowness. This can be due to unmet expectations of what the holidays could (or should) have brought. Or for some it is the reminder of another new year, when this past year hasn't been all that great and all of the signs point to the coming one failing to be great either. Suffice it to say that there is a

reason why, for many, the holidays tend to leave them feeling down...and the reality of going back to "normal" life afterwards brings down still many more in the days and weeks following.

Christians are not immune from these sorts of struggles. In fact, many of us look backward and forward and see that, though we want to serve God faithfully, and have the best of intentions to do so, we often get in our own way. An honest accounting of our lives, try as we may, will generally expose that we have done much we shouldn't have, and left

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## **Regular Schedule**

### **Sunday**

9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship service

### **Holy Communion**

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

### **Meal**

2nd Sunday of the month

### **Board Meeting**

7:00 PM 1st Tuesday  
of the month

### **Ladies Bible Studies**

10:00 AM Wednesdays  
6:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wed.'s

### **Youth Group**

TBA

### **Friday Night Bible Study**

7:00 PM Location TBA

undone much that we should. While it's often easy to sense that God is near and feel our devotion to Him when we are worshipping together and singing songs which proclaim the great things He has done for us, it's also easy to afterwards feel a sense of condemnation because our sins and failures confront us.

This Christmas I learned a new song that is beautiful, especially in times like that. It's called O Come, All Ye Unfaithful. While there is something wonderful about singing, "O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant," those words might leave a bitter taste when we are being dragged down by a sense of our own lack of faithfulness, joy, and triumph. For those who are feeling as if you have nothing to offer to God, I invite you to ponder this selection of lyrics:

O come, all you unfaithful,  
Come, weak and unstable,  
Come, know you are not alone.  
O come, barren and waiting ones,  
Weary of praying, come,  
See what your God has done.

O come, bitter and broken,  
Come with fears unspoken,  
Come, taste of His perfect love.  
O come, guilty and hiding ones,  
There is no need to run,  
See what your God has done.

He's the Lamb who was given,  
Slain for our pardon,  
His promise is peace  
For those who believe.

So come, though you have nothing,  
Come, He is the offering,  
Come, see what your God has done.

The power of the Gospel does not depend on either what you've done, or left undone. The power of the Gospel is based on what He has done for you. And the promise of the Gospel is that it is for you. Find the rest, peace, help, comfort, and strength that you can't find in yourself in your Lord Jesus Christ.

## Looking Ahead

January 25th  
Annual Meeting

January 26th - February 2nd  
Family Promise Serve Week

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Mt. 28:19-20*

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