

The background of the image is a deep red curtain with vertical pleats, creating a textured, draped effect.

mERRY
CHRISTmas

Advent

Lesson 4





Adventus – "arrival"

Three Focuses



Arrival in
Bethlehem



Arrival in
your life



Arrival to
come



1

Life's Curveballs

2

Our Testimony

3

Life's Curveballs

Are you a...



Luke 1:38 And Mary said,
“Behold, I am the servant
of the Lord; let it be to me
according to your word.”
And the angel departed
from her.

Luke 1:24-25 εἶπεν δὲ
Μαριάμ· ἰδοὺ ἡ δούλη
κυρίου· γένοιτό μοι κατὰ τὸ
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A well-known Hebrew construction: *eved adonai* - עֶבֶד-יְהוָה
Israel at its best was the servant of the Lord

18x – Moses
(Exm. Josh 22:4)

2x – Joshua
2x – David

7x – Israel at its best
(exm. 2 Ki. 9:7)

NASA's Parker Solar Probe enters the Sun's atmosphere for the first time



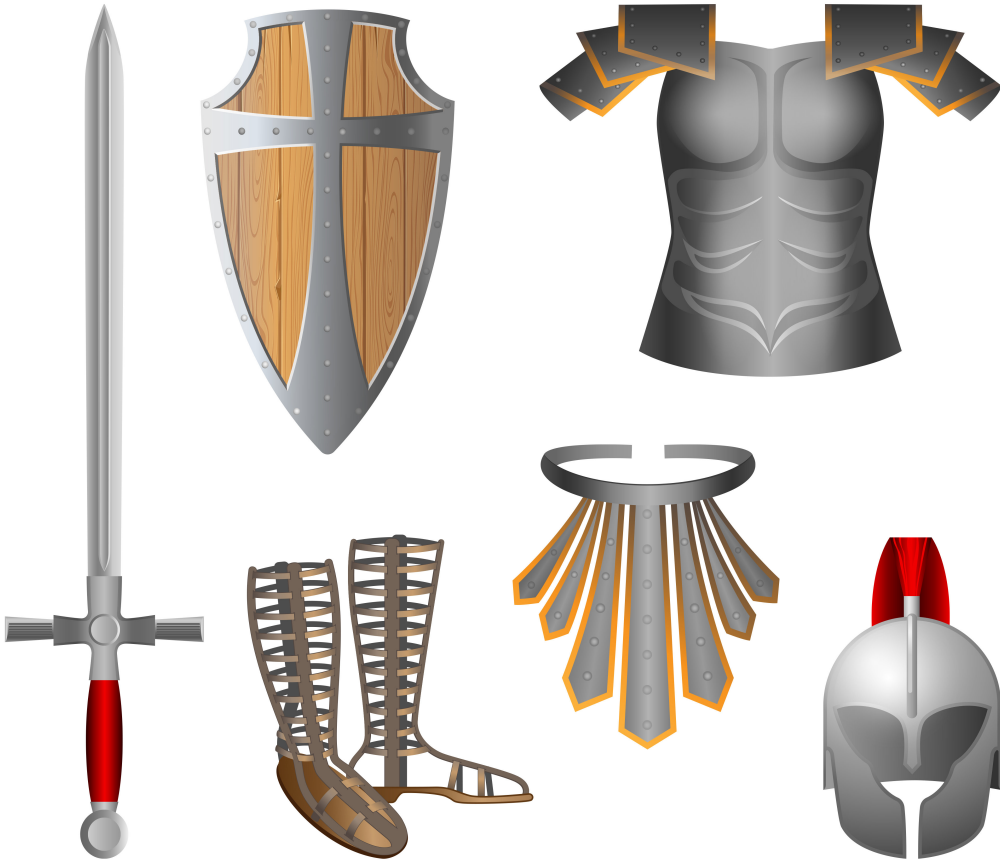
A collection of various missiles and rockets is displayed outdoors on a gravel surface. In the foreground, several red and white missiles are mounted on green metal racks. Behind them, a large black cylindrical object, possibly a missile or rocket, is visible. To the right, a large white cylindrical object is partially visible. The background shows a grassy area and a cloudy sky.

Isaiah 54:17 –

No weapon that is fashioned
against you shall succeed,
and you shall refute every tongue that rises
against you in judgment.

This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD
and their vindication from me, declares the LORD.

THE ARMOR OF GOD



Ephesians
6:10-18

What are your struggles?



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LET IT BE



When I find myself in
times of trouble, Mother
Mary comes to me,

"When I put that in the song, I think a lot of people then thought that it's become kind of quasi-religious with Mother Mary, Virgin Mary. Which is fine by me, if that's how you want to take it.

"The actual reason was my mom came to me in a dream and actually said 'Let it be,' which turned out to be great advice. Thanks, mom!"

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Our Testimony

Luke 1:39-40 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40 Ἀναστᾶσα δὲ Μαριὰμ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ταύταις ἐπορεύθη εἰς τὴν ὄρεινὴν μετὰ σπουδῆς εἰς πόλιν Ἰούδα, καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον Ζαχαρίου καὶ ἡσπάσατο τὴν Ἐλισάβετ.

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spoudē - σπουδή: move with speed, zeal, earnestness

2 Pet. 1:5

Jude 3

Rom 12:11

I need to do better...



Luke 1:41-42 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

Luke 1:41-42 καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἤκουσεν τὸν ἀσπασμὸν τῆς Μαρίας ἡ Ἐλισάβετ, ἐσκίρτησεν τὸ βρέφος ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπλήσθη πνεύματος ἁγίου ἡ Ἐλισάβετ, καὶ ἀνεφώνησεν κραυγῇ μεγάλῃ καὶ εἶπεν· εὐλογημένη σὺ ἐν γυναιξίν καὶ εὐλογημένος ὁ καρπὸς τῆς κοιλίας σου

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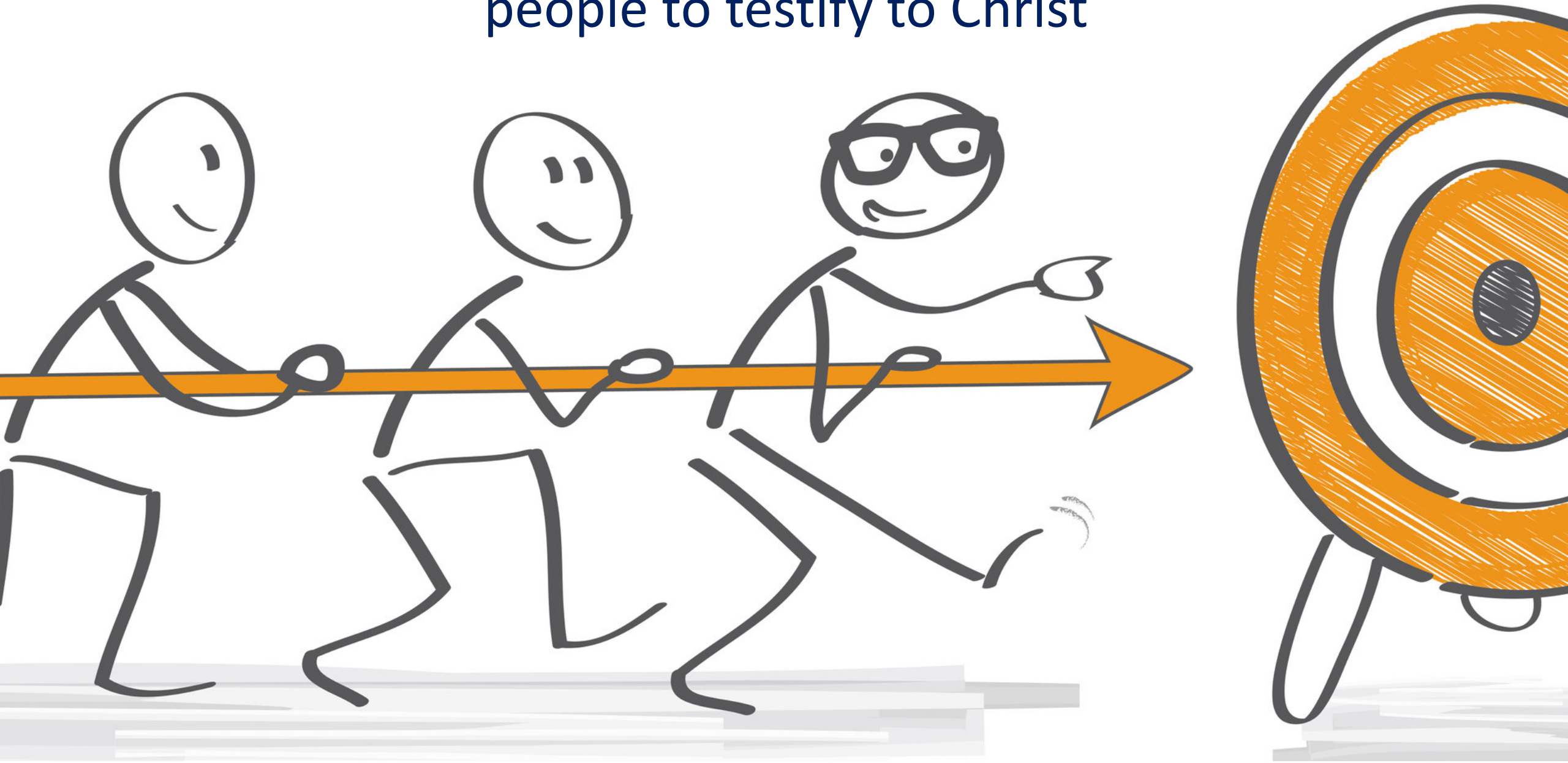
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Jn 15:26-27

Jn 16:14

The Holy Spirit works through
people to testify to Christ



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Luke 1:43-44 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

Luke 1:43-44 καὶ πόθεν μοι τοῦτο ἵνα ἔλθῃ ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ κυρίου μου πρὸς ἐμέ; ἰδοὺ γὰρ ὡς ἐγένετο ἡ φωνὴ τοῦ ἀσπασμοῦ σου εἰς τὰ ὠτά μου, ἐσκίρτησεν ἐν ἀγαλλιάσει τὸ βρέφος ἐν τῇ κοιλίᾳ μου.

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When did you last jump for joy?







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Luke 1:46-49 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name...

Luke 1:46-49 Καὶ εἶπεν
Μαριάμ· Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου
τὸν κύριον, καὶ ἠγαλλίασεν τὸ
πνεῦμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ τῷ
σωτήρί μου, ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ
τὴν ταπείνωσιν τῆς δούλης
αὐτοῦ. ἰδοὺ γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν
μακαριοῦσίν με πᾶσαι αἱ γενεαί,
ὅτι ἐποίησέν μοι μεγάλα ὁ
δυνατός. καὶ ἅγιον τὸ ὄνομα
αὐτοῦ...



Do you often break
out into song?



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Our God

Luke 1:50-53 And his mercy
is for those who fear him
from generation to
generation.

Luke 1:50 καὶ τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ εἰς
γενεὰς καὶ γενεὰς
τοῖς φοβουμένοις αὐτόν

Translation
is NOT
math!



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Luke 1:50 καὶ τὸ **ἔλεος** αὐτοῦ εἰς
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eleos - ἔλεος : mercy, compassion, pity
Kindness and concern expressed for someone in need

Lk 10:29-37

Matt 9:13

Luke 1:51 He has shown
strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in
the thoughts of their hearts;

Luke 1:51 Ἐποίησεν κράτος ἐν
βραχίονι αὐτοῦ,
διεσκόρπισεν ὑπερηφάνους
διανοία καρδίας αὐτῶν·

Luke 1:52-53 ...he has
brought down the mighty
from their thrones and
exalted those of humble
estate; he has filled the
hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away
empty

Luke 1:52-53 ... καθεῖλεν
δυνάστας ἀπὸ θρόνων
καὶ ὕψωσεν ταπεινούς, πεινῶντας
ἐνέπλησεν ἀγαθῶν
καὶ πλουτοῦντας ἐξαπέστειλεν
κενοῦς

What's up and what's down?





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Lesson 4



A lit candle in a dark holder is the central focus, casting a warm glow. To the left, a gift box wrapped in shimmering gold paper is partially visible. In the background, out of focus, are green pine branches. The overall scene is dimly lit, emphasizing the candle's light.

Light for
Today

Life throws curveballs
But we're God's servants
And we tell the
world about our God

Time for church!



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