

## **Preparation**

Advent is a time of spiritual preparation as we anticipate celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There is a very real sense that all of life is preparation for knowing, loving and serving God for now and all of eternity. Over the course of time, God had been preparing the earth to receive her King. We only know a small portion of His sovereign care and guidance. We look today at only a small portion of that.

### **A Plan for the Fullness of Time**

*Ephesians 1:9-11, Galatians 4:4-6*

### **God Guides Governments**

*Luke 2:1-7*

### **Cultural Influences Work God's Purposes**

*Acts 17:16-21*

### **Prophecies Were in Place**

*Jeremiah 33:14-17* (Davidic Covenant)

*Micah 5:2* (A ruler from Bethlehem)

*Jeremiah 31:31-34* (New Covenant)

*Malachi 3:1-2, 4:5-6* (Messenger to proclaim the Messiah)

### **God's People Have Hope and Anticipate God's Activity**

*Luke 2:25-38* (Simeon and Anna)