

Sermon Notes

December 16 & 17, 2006

Rev. Ray Cortese

Are You Prepared?

Luke 3:1-14

I. PREPARATION FOR THE COMING OF JESUS REQUIRES RETURNING.

(Luke 3:3,4) And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'make ready the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.'" (Malachi 3:7) From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts.

II. PREPARATION FOR THE COMING OF JESUS REQUIRES PRODUCING FRUIT.

(Luke 3:8-11) "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds were questioning him, saying, "Then what shall we do?" And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise."