

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO

the Holy Days

EPIPHANY : FOR THE WORLD

While 'Advent' comes to us from Latin, 'Epiphany' comes to us from Greek. It simply means “manifestation” and refers to Christ's manifestation to the whole world— not just the Hebrews but also the Gentiles.

Connected to the Christmas story specifically by the visit of the Magi from the East, Epiphany celebrates the fact that Christ came to redeem every man, not just a select bunch. Celebrated on January 6, Epiphany is separated from Christmas Day because Christ's appearance to the Gentile world did not occur at the time of His birth, for the Magi seem to have arrived in Bethlehem quite some time after the Nativity, perhaps even as long as two years later (hence, the “house” in Matthew's account instead of the packed inn's stable and the details of Herod's mass murder of all neighboring children two and under).

Epiphany reminds us that God has not left Himself without a witness to the lost world. He intended to redeem even those outside of His covenant people, and He always makes good on His promises. That offers great hope to you and me. That offers great hope to the world.

Christ has come to redeem us. Christ will come again to right all wrongs. Let's live in that reality now. He is the Light of the world, and He illumines the darkness. Let us walk in the Light, bringing the Good News to the world and bearing in our love the hope of redemption...