

Luke 1,2
Opening the Gift of Community
Advent and Community (In)

Sermon Notes for December 16, 2007 by Pastor Dennis R. Tuuri

Intro- The Increase of His Government (Theocracy, Romney and Huckabee)

I. Advent and the Four Gospels

II. Men, Women and Children - Jesus and the Restoration of Community

III. Opening the Gift of Community – Carefully!

A. Community's Characteristics in Romans 14

1. Reception of Others v. 1

2. Working at Living for the Lord v. 5-7

Daniel Forrest "it [the law of God] is the practice of God's own life ruling in the soul as a guiding, sustaining, quickening power.

3. Thankfulness v. 6

4. Actively Pursuing Peace and Edification v. 17-19

B. Typical Sins Against Community in Romans 14

Rush Quote on Man's Fallen Nature

Col. 2:16,17 – Diet and Holydays

1. Despising the Weak (Strength-less) v. 3,10 (see Luke 18:9)
"Holy" Elitism

2. Judging the Strong v. 3,10 (see John 7:24)
"Holy" Reductionism

C. The Blessings of Community - Victory! Romans 16

1. Properly Discriminating: Greet-Avoid-Greet

2. Being Head-crushers: Greet-Crush-Greet

3. World-wise Conquest with the Christmas Message – 16:25-27