

# J

the story of  
Jesus

**Anticipating the Presence**

**Matthew 3:1-3**

**Week 2 of 4**

Robby Robins was an Air Force pilot during the first Iraq war. After his 300th mission, he was surprised to be given permission to immediately pull his crew together and fly his plane home. They flew across the ocean to Massachusetts and then had a long drive to western Pennsylvania. They drove all night, and when his buddies dropped him off at his driveway just after sun-up, there was a big banner across the garage—"Welcome Home Dad!"

How did they know? No one had called, and the crew themselves hadn't expected to leave so quickly. Robins relates, "When I walked into the house, the kids, about half dressed for school, screamed, 'Daddy!' Susan came running down the hall—she looked terrific—hair fixed, make-up on, and a crisp yellow dress. 'How did you know?' I asked.

'I didn't,' she answered through tears of joy. 'Once we knew the war was over, we knew you'd be home one of these days. We knew you'd try to surprise us, so we were ready every day.'"

*(Lee Eclov, in the sermon "Heaven," PreachingToday.com)*

Through this week's daily bible reading we hope you are challenged to be ready for Christ's second coming just as these people were anticipating his first coming.

- DAY ONE – Psalm 22
- DAY TWO – Luke 1:57-79
- DAY THREE – Matthew 2:1-12
- DAY FOUR – Luke 2:21-40
- DAY FIVE – John 1:43-51

**Memory Verse:**

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come" (Matthew 24:42)



northeast daily reading

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