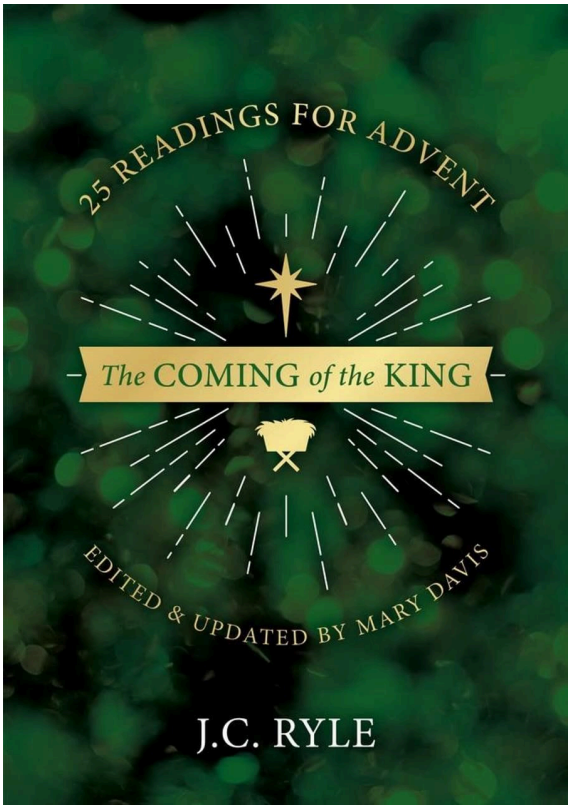
BOOK OF THE MONTH | DECEMBER 2026

The Coming of the King: 25 Devotional Readings for Advent – J.C. RYLE



Daily Devotional for December
(2 short pages per day)

Week 1: Wednesday 12/1-Sunday 12/6
Day 1-2 The Two Advents of Christ
Day 3-5 The Second Advent (Matthew)
Week 2: Monday 12/7-Sunday 12/13
Day 6-11 The Second Advent (Matthew)
Day 12-13 The First Advent (Luke)
Week 3: Monday 12/14-Sunday 12/20
Day 14-20 The First Advent (Luke)
Week 4: Monday 12/21-Friday 12/25
Day 21-25 The First Advent (Luke)

In her excellent introduction to this work which was compiled and edited by Mary Davis, she says:

"These readings are all from Ryle's Expository Thoughts, from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Our first two reflections contrast Jesus' first coming with his second. Then *come* 9 reflections which consider the second advent, taken from Matthew's Gospel; and 14 readings on the first advent from Luke's gospel, taking us right up to Christmas Day. Ryle's theology and distinctive style have been retained and his original language lightly updated for today's readers. I have also added a prayer to each reading to aid our devotions.

"The first time I read Ryle's reflections on the Gospels many years ago, I was thrilled by his warm, single-minded, contagious devotion to Jesus. Even though his material is well over 100 years ago, his words remain as relevant, fresh and heart-warming as ever. I think it is because Ryle himself is so focused on our Lord Jesus, who doesn't change, and because he speaks directly to the human heart which is essentially unchanged since the time of our forebears in the garden of Eden.

"I hope your heart will be warmed as mine is, by Ryle's effusive meditations on our Lord Jesus Christ. But be warned-he is uncompromising as he explains the implications of Jesus' second coming as King. He doesn't steer clear of passages about our Lord's return that we may find hard to hear."

I have greatly enjoyed being pointed to these various passages from Matthew and Luke, and have benefitted from Ryle's reflections. I am praying that these devotions will be a blessing to our body this December!

Grace,
Tyler

GILBERT BIBLE CHURCH