

## Immanuel - God With Us

December 24, 2017

### Matthew 1:20-23 ESV

20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel!" (which means, God with us).

God is with us continually, not only by the default of His omnipresence, but because He loves us, delights in us and desires to be our ever-present companion.

### Genesis 3:8-9 ESV

8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

### Genesis 3:15 ESV

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise (*shuwph - crush*) your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

### Genesis 3:21 ESV

21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

### Exodus 29:43-46 NASB

43 "I will meet there with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory."

44 "I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; I will also consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me."

45 "I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God."

46 "They shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God."

### John 1:14 NASB

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**John 14:18-20 NASB**

18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

19 "After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also."

20 "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."

**Ephesians 2:19-22 NASB**

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,

20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,

22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

**Revelation 21:2-4 NASB**

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,

4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

God being ever-present, abiding with us, definitively declares His love for us in a way in a way that His miracles cannot. There are many you want to help, but very few that you want to be with continually.

**Zephaniah 3:17 ESV**

17 The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

**Psalms 37:23 NASB**

23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way.

*Psalms 37:23 Amp*

*23 The steps of a [good] man are directed and established by the Lord when He delights in his way [and He busies Himself with his every step].*

**Psalms 56:8 ESV**

8 You have kept count (*caprar - to count, number*) of my tossings (*nowd - wanderings, aimless fugitive*); put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

Luke 12:6-7 ESV

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God.

7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

**How should we respond to God's loving, relentless pursuit?**

*Desire to be with Him as He desires to be with us. Desire to know Him, worship Him, commune with Him, enjoy Him, without having to conduct religious transactions when we come into His presence.*

**By becoming a man and living among us, He chose to identify, know and relate to us in common experience. His sympathy and compassion for us is not from a vantage of superior pity, but from willingly experiencing our pain and suffering for Himself.**

Hebrews 2:10 NASB

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

Hebrews 2:17-18 ESV

17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 4:14-16 ESV

14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**By being fully God and becoming fully man by the virgin birth, He did what no other man could ever do, destroy the power of sin, death, hell and Satan over us.**

Hebrews 2:14-15 ESV

14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

**Revelation 1:17-18 ESV**

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last,

18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

**Romans 8:3-4 ESV**

3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned (*katakrinō* - *to judge against, damn*) sin in the flesh,

4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.