

Good with Ms

PART 2 Sunday December 20, 2020



God With Us

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Sunday

December 20, 2020

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Mathew 1: 18- 25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. ²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” ²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS (NKJV).

OVERVIEW

Announcements and Proclamations

- Immanuel, God with us. That was an announcement from Isaiah the prophet given in 734 B.C. It came to its fulfillment in 4 B.C. when Jesus was born.
- *“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “**God with us** (Matthew 1: 23, NKJV).”*
- The angel said to the shepherds, *“For this day in the city of David there has been born for you **a Savior, who is Christ the Lord** (Luke 2: 11, AMP).”*
- The wise men, *“...Where is He who is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and **have come to worship Him** (Mathew 2: 2, NKJV).”*
- **Those announcements are life-changing announcements**



OVERVIEW

- His name shall be called Immanuel. Matthew tells us that this name fulfills an Old Testament prophecy, an Old Testament promise that when Jesus was born His name should be called Immanuel.
- Isaiah chapter 7, gives us the background of the naming of Jesus Immanuel, which means God with us.
- Ahaz was the wicked, godless king of Judah. He was under siege by Syria and Israel, the northern kingdom.

Isaiah 7: 1-2 The Word From God

- So God sends Isaiah, the prophet, to Ahaz to encourage him and to call upon him to look to the Lord.



OVERVIEW

- At one of the **darkest moments** of Judah's life as a kingdom. God proclaimed one of the **brightest promises**.
- There may be times in your life when you will find yourself closed in on all sides by the enemy, what do you do when this happens?
- It's not just God with us; it's also God for us.
- Because there would be no God with us if God weren't for us.
- It gives us a wonderful assurance, that God would be for us, that God would care about us, that we would matter to God.
- **1 Peter 5:7**, states; “*Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*”
- **It matters to Him concerning you!**

OVERVIEW

When Facing Difficult Situations

➤ **Ahaz and Judah's bad situation**

❖ In a sense Judah had brought some of this upon themselves, they had been living in disobedience to God and His Word, they had exposed themselves to evil influences.

❖ Their reactions were much like ours when we find ourselves surrounded

➤ **Fear gripped the king and the nation**

❖ Isaiah 7:2b *"...so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind."*

OVERVIEW

When Facing Difficult Situations (cont'd)

➤ **They felt overwhelmed**

- ❖ The problem was greater than their strength and resources. Who could possibly help them?
- ❖ God was allowing such a situation to turn them from their disobedience



OVERVIEW

When Confronted with Frightful Situations

- The usual reactions of most are: frustration, doubt, fear, anxiety
- A sense of confinement
- God made a promise to Judah that still is the greatest promise to mankind today. **God is with us**
- So if darkness surrounds you today, either innocently or even because of disobedience; if you repent and submit to God; He promises to be with you.

OVERVIEW

Their next step would be crucial

- Would they turn back to God or would they try to solve it their own way, with their own strength?
- This is always the major question when we face difficult situations in our lives. And especially when the choices that we make could get us deeper into trouble if we try and solve it in our own wisdom and strength,
- The quality of the outcome would be determined by what they chose.
- All they could see at the moment was **FEAR**.
- They needed to ask themselves, what is God's purpose in this situation?

OVERVIEW

What is God Saying?

- What they needed was what Isaiah 7:3 begins with: "***Then the Lord Said*** ..."
- Up until now it had been what they said, not what God said.
- If we listen, God has an answer for us.
- Part of the answer was beginning to confront the king with God's answer, not just his personal opinions.
- God tells him to stay calm before He tells him the answer to the problem.
- **Be careful, Keep calm, Don't be afraid.**

OVERVIEW

Isaiah 7: 3 - 4 : The encouragement

- ❖ Take heed – Be Careful
- ❖ Keep Calm - Be quiet
- ❖ Don't Be afraid – Do not fear
- ❖ Don't lose heart – Don't be fainthearted
- ❖ ***God starts with us first, not always with the problem. Isaiah begins by reassuring Ahaz.***

Isaiah 7: 5 - 6: Their Intentions

- ❖ They have plotted an invasion
- ❖ To tear it apart
- ❖ Divide it amongst themselves
- ❖ Rule over it

OVERVIEW

Isaiah 7: 7 – 9: The promise

- ❖ The sovereign Lord speaks
- ❖ It will not take place

Isaiah 7: 10-11; *"Moreover the Lord spoke again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth or in the heights above (KJV)."*

- The Lord is saying to Ahaz through Isaiah, you ask God for a sign and put no limitations on it.
- He said in the heights or in the depths, any kind of sign you want, you ask for it and you will get it. No limit.

OVERVIEW

Isaiah 7: 11: Ask for a sign

- That was the singular. God was saying to Ahaz, you ask a sign.
- In **Isaiah 14** it becomes plural. The Lord himself shall give you (plural) the house of David a sign:
"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."
- That was God's sign. It was a promise that one day God would send to the world a Savior.

OVERVIEW

Isaiah 7: 12: Ahaz Response

- ❖ Ahaz says, "I will not ask, I will not put the Lord to the test."
- ❖ That was a very deceitful response.
- ❖ He basically is trying to evade the question.
- ❖ Ahaz has entered into an agreement with Assyria.
- ❖ Ahaz is basically blowing God off.

Isaiah 7: 13 – 14: God's Response to Ahaz and to the Nation

- The Lord says, "...*Hear ye now, O house of David, is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;... (KJV).*"

Immanuel God With Us – Three things about His Name

I. It's a Miraculous Name - Isaiah 7: 14

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son.”

- There is something miraculous about this name, Immanuel
- The angel came to Mary. The angel came to Joseph and in miraculous form gave the name.
- When the wise men, came to announce the birth of the Lord, they came in response to a miraculous star that was in the sky.
- When Luke who was a physician and a scientist came to discuss the birth of our Lord, he did it in terms of a biological miracle.
- Luke, the beloved physician, knew that when a baby is born it is a man and a woman that bring a baby into existence.

It's a Miraculous Name - Isaiah 7: 14

- The first promise in the whole Bible about the coming of Jesus is in Genesis 3: 15, The seed of the woman.
- When you talk about birth you are talking about the seed of the man.
- But from the very first promise we have an indication that the birth of Jesus was going to be a miracle.
- When the angel told Mary that she was going to give birth to a baby and she knew that she had never had relations with a man, she said, "***How can these things be...*** (Luke 1: 34)?"
- The angel came back to her and said; "...***The Holy Spirit will come upon you...*** (Luke 1:35)" Then he said, "***With God nothing shall be impossible*** (Luke 1:37)."

II. It's a Mysterious Name

- **I Timothy 3: 16**; *“Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness. God was manifest in the flesh,...”*
- When Jesus was born His name shall be called Immanuel which means God with us. **The mystery of God becoming a man.**
- **Colossians 2: 9**; *“For in Him [Jesus Christ] dwells all the fullness of the Godhead in a bodily.”* **Jesus is God**
- A name that brings power, healing, forgiveness, mercy, compassion, holiness, justice, and salvation. It's the wonderful name of Jesus, the sweetest name I know.

It's a Mysterious Name

- **Isaiah 9:6**; *"...His name shall be called, "Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*
- **Isaiah 7:14**; *"... the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name, Immanuel."*
- **Matthew 1:21**; *"... you shall call His name Jesus,..."*
- **Luke 1:35**; *"... He shall be called the Son of God."*
- Jesus asked the Pharisees in Matthew 22: 41-43; 45-46 *"What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?"* They said to Him, *"The Son of David."* Jesus said to them, *"How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: ... If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?"* And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore."

It's a Mysterious Name

- **Mathew 16: 16-17**; Simon Peter uttered the truth at Caesarea Philippi, *"...Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God."* Jesus answered and said to him, *"Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven."*

Upon that confession

- *"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ (**Matthew 16: 18-20**).*
- "Son of God" simply means that Jesus is eternally, equally, and essentially God.

III. It's a Marvelous Name

A more excellent name than Angels

- **Hebrews 1: 4**; *“Having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”*

A name of legacy

- **Acts 10: 43**; *“To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”*

In His Name we were washed, sanctified, justified

- **1 Corinthians 6: 11**; *“And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”*

It's a Marvelous Name

Prayers are answered in His name

- **John 16: 23-24;** *“And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”*
- **John 14: 13 -14;** *“And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”*



It's a Marvelous Name

We give thanks in His name

- **Ephesians 5: 20**; “Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

We do all things in His name

- **Colossians 3: 17**; *“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”*



It's a Marvelous Name

There is healing in His name

- **Acts 3: 6 & 16;** *“Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”*
- *“And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.”*

It's a Marvelous Name

We have authority in His name

- **Luke 10: 17-19;** *“Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”¹⁸ And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”*
- Christmas means God is for us.
- That's what Christmas is all about. It's God with us.