

Theme: Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, rescuing and restoring us to God.

## I. Intro - The End of A Journey

- A. We have been looking at 7 titles of Christ in Isaiah
- B. These were all titles for the Messiah
- C. They were all titles the Church drew together in its worship during Advent
- D. The 7 O Antiphons - one for each title
- E. Tonight - O Emmanuel!  
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14

## II. Emmanuel - God With Us

- A. The name Emmanuel means God With Us  
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him **Immanuel**. Isaiah 7:14
  - 1. Name formed from 3 Hebrew words - God with us
  - 2. The Coming King will be none other than God With Us!
  - 3. This is the stress in the opening lines of the Malcolm Guite poem  
O come, O come, and be our God-with-us  
O long-sought With-ness for a world without,  
Malcolm Guite - O Emmanuel
    - a. We seem to be without - cut off
    - b. But Jesus is God with us, come to rescue us!

- c. What human hearts have longed for since the Garden of Eden, we are given in Christ!
- d. We need not be distant or cut off from God because Jesus is Immanuel - God with us!

## B. Emmanuel - God with us and for us!

- 1. Emmanuel is not just God with us: He is God for us!
- 2. The people in Isaiah's day feared the future - and God's promise was Immanuel!
- 3. God is not far off from our problems - He has come to us in Immanuel, and He is with us and for us!
- 4. Immanuel does not come to bring judgment, but to offer God's Presence and blessing as we look to Him

## III. Emmanuel - The Completion of God's Promises

- A. Emmanuel - the fullness of God with us
  - 1. Emmanuel brings all of the other titles home
    - a. He is God's Wisdom - with us!
    - b. He is the Revelation of YHWH - with us
    - c. He is the Promised Root of Jesse - with us to sustain us
    - d. He is the Key of David - with us to free us
    - e. He is the Dayspring of Light - with us to pierce the darkness
    - f. He is the King of the Nations - with us to rule and deliver us
  - 2. He is God Himself - with us!

## B. The hidden acrostic in the O antiphons

1. The church sang these the 7 nights leading up to Christmas Eve
2. They sang 1 antiphon each night
3. When you look back at the path of the antiphons, the first letter in Latin of each forms an acrostic

**E** - Emmanuel (God With Us)

**R** - Rex Gentium (King of the Nations)

**O** - Oriens (Dayspring)

**C** - Clavis (Key of David)

**R** - Radix (Root of Jesse)

**A** - Adonai (Lord)

**S** - Sapientia (Wisdom)

Ero Cras - Tomorrow I Will Come!

4. Each year as the church celebrates, she reminds herself that "Tomorrow I will come"
5. The journey is to remind us that wherever we may go, wherever we find ourselves - The King is Coming
6. The journey reminds us that God's people are never cut off from Him - for Tomorrow I will come!
7. Like Israel re-enacted the Passover each year, entering into its reality afresh, so the church re-enacts the coming of Christ and salvation, entering into its reality afresh!

## IV. Receiving the Good News of the King

- A. We have taken this journey to remind us that God is With Us!

1. When all seems confused, we can cry out to Him for Wisdom has come to us!
2. When we seem to have been forgotten and God seems distant and unknowable, we can call out to Him for YHWH is with us!
3. When life seems desolate, we feel like a tree cut down, we can have hope for the Root of Jesse is with us to sustain us!
4. When it feels like we are shut into a prison, or trapped in sin, we can call out for deliverance for He is the Key of David Who can unlock every door!
5. When it feels all is dark, fear not for the Dayspring is rising, and His Light is with us to pierce the darkness
6. When it seems like God's plan has failed, rejoice, for He is the King of the Nations, and God's plan is right on time!
7. If you are God's Child, rejoice - for Immanuel - God is with us!

## B. Receiving and Passing on the Good News

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. <sup>2</sup> See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Isaiah 60:1-3

1. We have received the Good News - God is with us!
2. This world is a dark and cold place - receive the light and spread it to others!
3. Silent night - candle-lighting

## God With Us (O Emmanuel)

Isaiah 7:14

December 24, 2019

Silent Night/Candle Lighting

2 Corinthians 13:14

Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, Christology, prophecy (Old Testament), Deity of Christ; Incarnation

Go forth,

Full of God's Wisdom,

Bearing the very name of the Blessed Lord,

Sustained by the Root of Jesse,

Freed by the Key of David,

Enlightened by the Dayspring of God's Rising Sun,

Ruled and blessed by the King of the nations,

Knowing that God is with us and for us -

Go forth blessed - and be a blessing!

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14