

IMMANUEL—GOD WITH US

Matthew 1:1-25

Key Verse 1:23

1. Read verse 1. Why is Jesus the Messiah introduced as the son of David, the son of Abraham (Ge 12:2-3, 22:17-18; 2Sa 7:12-13)? What does this tell us about God's purpose and way of working in history?

***Genesis 12:2-3**, "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

***Genesis 22:17-18**, "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

***2 Samuel 7:12-13**, "12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."

2. Skim verses 2-17. Think about the significance of the three periods in Israel's history (17). What was the cause of the decline of David's kingdom (Jer 35:15)? How was God with his people throughout these periods (1Ki 19:18)?

***Jeremiah 35:15**, "15 Again and again I sent all my servants the prophets to you. They said, "Each of you must turn from your wicked ways and reform your actions; do not follow other gods to serve them. Then you will live in the land I have given to you and your ancestors." But you have not paid attention or listened to me."

***1 Kings 19:18**, "18 Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him."

3. Read verses 18-21. What does the angel's message to Joseph tell us about who Jesus is and about God's purpose in sending him (1Pe 2:24; Lk 1:74-75)?

***1 Peter 2:24**, "24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

***Luke 1:74-75**, "74 to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days."

4. Read verses 22-23. What prophecy does Jesus' birth fulfill (Isa 7:14, 9:6-7)? How does Jesus fulfill each title of the Messiah—Wonderful Counselor (Mt 5-7), Mighty God (Mt

8:28-34, 9:23-25), Everlasting Father (Mt 9:2, 12; 28:20b), and Prince of Peace (Mt 8:26, 27:51)?

***Isaiah 7:14**, “14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

***Isaiah 9:6**, “6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”

***Matthew 5-7** *The Sermon on the Mount*

***Matthew 8:28-34**, “28 When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. 29 “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?” 30 Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding. 31 The demons begged Jesus, “If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs.” 32 He said to them, “Go!” So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water. 33 Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. 34 Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.”

***Matthew 9:23-25**, “23 When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, 24 he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” But they laughed at him. 25 After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.”

***Matthew 9:2,12**, “2 Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven... 12 On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.”

***Matthew 28:20b**, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

***Matthew 8:26**, “26 He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.”

***Matthew 27:51**, “51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split”

5. Read verses 24-25. How was God with Joseph and Mary? What do you think “Immanuel (God with us)” meant personally to Matthew (Mt 10:2-4; 8:17; 13:44-46)? What does it mean to you?

***Matthew 10:2-4**, “2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.”

***Matthew 8:17**, “17 This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.””

***Matthew 13:44-46**, “44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. 45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.”