



DELIGHTING IN THE TRINITY

A D V E N T 2 0 2 0

Immanuel, God With Us

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Immanuel with an "I" or Emmanuel with an "E:"

- Immanuel with an "I" is a translation of the original Hebrew word composed of "Immanu" (with us) and "El" (God).
- Emmanuel with an "E" is a transliteration of the Greek "Emmanouel."

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Immanuel in the Past: The Difference Between Brokenness (sin) & Restoration

His story includes your story.

God chose us to be in a relationship with Him even before He laid out plans for this world. He wanted us to live holy lives characterized by love, free from sin, and blameless before Him. He destined us to be adopted as His children through the covenant Jesus the Anointed, inaugurated in His sacrificial life. This was His pleasure and His will for us. (Ephesians 1:4-5)

We don't have as a starting place our brokenness. The starting point is His plan.

Immanuel in the Present: The Difference Between Healing & Coping

Coping strategies refer to the specific efforts, both behavioral and psychological, that people employ to master, tolerate, reduce, or minimize stressful events.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:5

I will never leave or forsake you.

Matthew 28:19-20

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Luke 8:48

“Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.”

Immanuel in the Future: The Difference Between Despair & Hope

Some of the greatest difficulties we have in looking at our future is how we are responding, or have responded to, our past and present circumstances.

Lord I humbly acknowledge that sin wounds and lies distort my understanding and hinder my ability to follow you. I ask for special grace to carry all my unresolved issues so they don't get in the way.

“The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us.”

- A. W. Tozer

Why God? Why did this happen to me?

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.

Jeremiah 29:11

I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.

When I look for Him, I find Him; when I find Him, He is glad to be with me, and He is the solution.

Psalm 69:13-17

But as for me, I will pray to you, LORD;
answer me, God, at a time you choose.
Answer me because of your great love,
because you keep your promise to save.
Save me from sinking in the mud;
keep me safe from my enemies,
safe from the deep water.
Don't let the flood come over me;
don't let me drown in the depths
or sink into the grave.
Answer me, LORD, in the goodness
of your constant love;
in your great compassion turn to me!
Don't hide yourself from your servant;
I am in great trouble – answer me now!

Psalm 43:5

Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God, because I will praise him once again,
since his presence saves me and he is my God.

Colosians 1:26-27

The mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations,
but now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make
known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the
Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Revelation 21:1-5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'" He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

Even if we cannot gather in person

Emmanuel, God with us

Even if some Christmas traditions have had to go

Emmanuel, God with us

Even if we might not get to hug family and friends

Emmanuel, God with us

Even if we cannot sing carols beside each other

Emmanuel, God with us

Even if Christmas cheer is harder this year

Emmanuel, God with us

- Christian Aid Scotland