

## JESUS OUR IMMANUEL

### I. Isaiah 7:14 Matthew 1:20-23 Mark 12:1-2

**A. Isaiah 7:14 (ESV) is a prophecy about the Messiah: 14** *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.* **Matthew 1:20-23 (ESV) An angel tells Joseph about its fulfillment: 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).*

**B. Last Sunday I shared that, Jesus, is the Greek form of the Hebrew name, Joshua, meaning, "The Lord saves." Immanuel, is spelled with an "I" in Hebrew and with an "E" in Greek. While English translations differ, Immanuel or Emmanuel means GOD with us. The name Jesus reminds us His mission was one of rescue. The name Immanuel reminds us WHO did the rescuing! John MacArthur said: "If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: 'God with us.'"**

**C. Don't miss Immanuel--God with us! God used Moses to rescue Israel out of Egypt. Following their exodus, God called Moses up on Mt. Sinai to deliver His Commandments. But while on the mountain, the people persuaded Aaron to make a golden calf which they worshiped instead of God. Idolatry is the ultimate insult to God. Jesus, Immanuel, achieved a far far greater rescue, delivering us from sin, death, and hell. Christmas celebrating that diminishes, shifts, or clouds, the reality of WHO came and WHY He came, is just as idolatrous. Christmas in our culture has many golden calves; let's be sure not to fall down and worship them!**

**D. Celebrate this instead: Immanuel--God with us! (With an I or an E) And remember, God did not choose among the sons of Adam, a mere prophet to conduct your rescue. The prophets He did send all foretold of your Rescuer. God did not choose among the sons of Adam a somewhat pious priest with a flock of blemish-free lambs to secure your redemption. The priests He did choose offered sacrifices that foreshadowed the One who'd be both Priest and Sacrifice in atoning for your sins and securing your redemption. God did not choose among the sons of Adam a wise and fearless earthly king to subdue your enemies and establish His kingdom. The best of earthly kings merely hinted at the Ruler of the universe who'd come to conquer sin and death and establish His everlasting Kingdom. Jesus is our Prophet, Priest, and King! He is our Maker, Rescuer, and Ruler! Jesus is Immanuel, "God with us!" Don't miss this!**

**E. "The Parable of the Tenants" a.k.a. "Parable of the Vinedressers" is told by Matthew, Mark, & Luke. Jesus shares it right after His triumphal entry, just days before His arrest and crucifixion. You may ask, 'What's this parable got to do with Christmas or the Incarnation or Immanuel?' Answer: 'Everything!' After sending many prophets, God sent His Son. This parable is about those who reject Him. Mark 12:1-2 (ESV) says: 1 And He began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another**

country. **2** When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. **3** And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. **4** Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. **5** And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. **6** He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' **7** But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' **8** And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. **9** What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. **10** Have you not read this Scripture: "The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone; **11** this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?" **12** And they were seeking to arrest Him but feared the people, for they perceived that He had told the parable against them. So they left Him and went away. **(Sound familiar?! God the Son--Immanuel--God with us, was rejected by men...)**

**F.** Perhaps to you this person called *Jesus* was just a very upright and moral man; a good teacher or great story teller or wise guru. Godly yes, but God? No! You say, *'It's a shame He had to die and I'd love to lay some pretty flowers at His tomb if it's ever discovered...'* Of such nonsense **C.S. Lewis** wrote: "A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic--on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg--or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

**G.** So when we refer to *Jesus* here at MCC, we're referring to *Immanuel, God with us!* When we refer to *Jesus*, we're not just referring to a way, some truth, and your best life now; we're referring to **THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE!** (*We say so because He said so!*) When we peer into His stable, we see more than just the Baby Jesus, we see the Son of God, the Galaxy-Spinner, the Eternally Begotten Second Person of the Godhead. When we behold Jesus' manger, we see past it to His cross and empty tomb and occupied throne. We see the Second Adam! We see the Word made flesh! We see the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End! We see the Faithful and True Witness! We see the Righteous One! We see the Root of Jesse and the Lion of Judah! We see the Bright Morning Star! We see the King of kings and Lord of Lords! We see Jesus our Savior--Christ our Lord! We see Immanuel! We see God with us! *"Oh come let us adore Him!"* Adore *Who?* The Lamb of God who comes to take away the sins of man! The spotless Lamb of God who was slain but who lives again! We see Him!

**H.** *"Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth!"* Who did this? Jesus our Immanuel!

\* Close with Prayer...

[Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff](#)

[Isaiah 7:14 \(ESV\)](#)

**14** Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

### **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).

### **Mark 12:1-12 (ESV)**

**1** And He began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. **2** When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. **3** And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. **4** Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. **5** And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. **6** He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ **7** But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ **8** And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. **9** What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. **10** Have you not read this Scripture: *“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; **11** this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?”* **12** And they were seeking to arrest Him but feared the people, for they perceived that He had told the parable against them. So they left Him and went away.

### **Quote by John MacArthur**

"If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: 'God with us.'"

### **Quote by C.S. Lewis**

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic--on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg--or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

### **Video Clips & Important Articles**

**"From The Squalor of a Borrowed Stable (Immanuel)" - Cover by David Wesley**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYXFU8HugMY>

"Sing We the Song of Emmanuel" - Matt Boswell & Matt Papa  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYXFU8HugMY>

"Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)" - Chris Tomlin  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DjwQBLk03g>

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" - SovereignGraceMusic (Acoustic Sessions)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZggySBroc>

## **Bonus Stuff**

### **Luke 1:30-33 (ESV)**

**30** And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, **33** and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

### **Galatians 4:4-7 (NASB)**

**4** But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, **5** so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. **6** Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" **7** Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

### **Matthew 21:33-46 (ESV)**

**33** "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. **34** When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. **35** And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. **36** Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. **37** Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' **38** But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' **39** And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" **41** They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." **42** Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?" **43** Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. **44** And the one who falls on this Stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they

perceived that He was speaking about them. **46** And although they were seeking to arrest Him, they feared the crowds, because they held Him to be a prophet.

### **Luke 20:9-19 (ESV)**

**9** And He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. **10** When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. **11** And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. **12** And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. **13** Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' **14** But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' **15** And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? **16** He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!" **17** But He looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written: "'The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone'? **18** Everyone who falls on that Stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." **19** The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on Him at that very hour, for they perceived that He had told this parable against them, but they feared the people.

### **Zephaniah 3:17 (KJV)**

**17** The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love, He will joy over thee with singing.

### **Quote by Charles Spurgeon**

"Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendor."

### **Quote by Matthew Henry**

"By the light of nature we see God as a God above us, by the light of the law we see Him as a God against us, but by the light of the gospel we see Him as Emmanuel, God with us."

### **Quote by John Wesley**

"The best of all is God with us..."

### **Immanuel or Emmanuel**

by Derek Griz - Immanuel Church - July 19, 2016

<https://immanuelknox.org/2016/07/19/immanuel-or-emmanuel/>

The King James Version of the Bible uses the spelling Emmanuel. The English Standard Version and others (e.g., NASB, NLT, NKJV, HCSB, NIV) use the spelling

Immanuel. The New English Translation employs both spellings, Immanuel ([Isaiah 7:14](#)) and Emmanuel ([Matthew 1:23](#)).

So, which spelling is correct?

Well, to be fair, there really is no “right” way to transliterate words from one alphabet to another. The process of transliteration is all about getting the sounds into the other language, and both spellings, Immanuel and Emmanuel, allow us to pronounce the original word correctly.

But still, why the difference in spelling? And why would the NET Bible use both spellings?

The answer lies in the languages behind the English translations. The Old Testament is written in Hebrew (and some Aramaic), and the New Testament is written in Greek. The Hebrew for Immanuel looks like this: אֱמַנּוּאֵל. Reading right-to-left, the first letter “א” (Ayin) is silent (with a vowel point beneath it) and typically gets transliterated as an “I.” So, the English transliteration of the Hebrew word usually looks like Immanuel.

The Greek transliteration of אֱמַנּוּאֵל looks like this: Ἐμμανουήλ. Do you see the “E” (Epsilon) in there? The Gospel of Matthew has Ἐμμανουήλ present in [Matthew 1:23](#). Epsilons often come over to English as “E’s.”

Now, knowing the Greek and Hebrew background, we have our answer.

The translations that use “Immanuel” favor the Hebrew, which was the original language for the name and predates the Greek versions. The translations that use “Emmanuel” favor the Greek. And of course, now we can see why the NET Bible uses both spellings. But the most important thing about Immanuel is not the spelling. What is most important is the meaning behind the name. What does “Immanuel” mean? It means “God with us,” and this is the name that was applied to Jesus ([Matthew 1:23](#)). The Gospel of John describes the arrival of Jesus as the arrival of God-with-us: “[1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...[14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...[18] No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known” ([John 1:1, 14, 18](#)).

So, the name “Immanuel” reminds us that one of the amazing facts of the Gospel is that in Jesus God drew near. He is not a god who is far off; He is the God who is near, near to the brokenhearted, near to His people.