

Immanuel: God With Us

Week 1: From Majesty to a Manger

Matthew 1:18-25

Introduction:

- A. What started as a fun team experience, quickly faded into a national nightmare. On June 23, 2018, twelve members of a Thai youth soccer team and their assistant coach found themselves trapped inside a cave that had partially flooded.
- B. They were trapped for 9 days before being discovered alive. Finally, after almost three weeks of being trapped in a cave, all 12 boys and their coach were rescued.
- C. This heart-warming story is seen by some as one of the greatest rescue stories the world has ever witnessed. However, there will always remain one story of rescue that will never be topped.

The Greatest Rescue Story Of All Time (Matt. 1:18-25)

- A. The angel told Joseph to not be afraid to take Mary as his wife (v. 20). Taking Mary as his wife would have brought about a great deal of dishonor for Joseph in the eyes of others.
- B. Joseph was to not be afraid to take Mary as his wife because that which was conceived in her was from the Holy Spirit (v. 20).
- C. The name Jesus means, “The Lord saves” or “The Lord is salvation” (v. 21).
- D. While Jesus is His human name, the name Immanuel describes who Jesus is and the significance of His birth; He is God with Us (v. 23).

What Jesus Gave Up When He Came

- A. Residence with God
 - 1. Jn. 1:1-3, 14 – Jesus was with God in the beginning but left to come dwell among us.
 - 2. Jesus left glory in order to come and live on earth with man.
- B. Recognition as God
 - 1. Phil. 2:5-7 – Jesus was in the form of God in heaven. The word form has to do with his inward nature and not His physical appearance.
 - 2. Heb. 1:3 – Jesus was the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.
 - 3. Jesus experienced rejection while on earth (Jn. 1:10-11; Mk. 6:1-6).
- C. Right to be treated like God
 - 1. The King of Kings was born and placed in a manger because there were no rooms (Lk. 2:1-7).
 - 2. Jesus experienced a lot of sorrow and grief while living on earth (Isa. 53:3; 2 Cor. 8:9).

Conclusion:

- A. The name Immanuel means, “God with us.”
- B. Jesus left heaven and came to earth to be with us so that we could be a part of the greatest rescue story of all time.
- C. May we never forget what all Jesus had to give up in order to come and dwell among us.