

## “Immanuel—God with Us”

Matthew 1:18-25

God gave a sign to Ahaz, King of Judah, declaring the armies of Aram and Israel would not overthrow him.

*“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

**Immanuel** [im-man-u-el] Immanuel = "God with us" or "with us is God"

**im**—preposition “with”

**anu**—“us” 1<sup>st</sup> person, plural pronoun

**el**—generic name for “god” or “God”

### 1. Cosmic

A. Immanuel reflects the nature of God.

Omnipresence means God is everywhere.

Omnipresence explains God’s nature as both:

Transcendent—above and separate from us and

Immanent—near and close to us.

B. Immanuel--God with Us.

God bound Himself to us by His love.

God’s Transcendence and Immanence meet in Bethlehem .

This meeting is sealed on the Cross with the Blood of Christ.

Proclaimed and offered to the world in the Resurrection.

### 2. Historical

Began in Creation

*Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness,”*

—Genesis 1:26a

Continued after the Fall.

*But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”*

—Genesis 3:9

Jesus **embodied** Immanuel in Bethlehem.

Mary—Luke 1:34-35

- Virgin birth points to the **Deity** of Jesus Christ.
- Virgin birth **demonstrates** Immanuel—God with us.

Joseph—Matthew 1:20a, 22-23

### 3. **Personal**

Cosmic nature of God coming into our world is **history** (or His-Story).

History affecting my life becomes **personal**.

Immanuel—God with us.

God is **in** and **over** our world and circumstances.

*Sustaining all things by his powerful word.* –Hebrews 1:3b

God is in and over our **personal** world.

Matthew 28:18 “*All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*” [**Transcendence**]

Matthew 28:20b, “*Lo, I am with you [Immanence] always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*”

Conclusion: My Personal Response to God’s Promise of Immanuel.

1. **Obey** the Lord’s command—Commit, step out.
2. Be **confident** the Lord is with us—Be courageous, be not afraid.
3. Stand **firm** in faith—Live by spiritual eyes of faith.

Memory Verse:

*The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel—which means, “God with us.”*

–Matthew 1:23