

GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US

Rev. Dr. Richard C. Whitcomb <u>pastor.whitcomb@agapehouseghana.org</u>

Matthew 1:20-23 "Mary...will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.' All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through His prophet: 'Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us."

The Meaning of Christmas

1. Jesus is God's <u>PROMISE</u> FULFILLED.

Matthew 1:22 "All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through His prophet."

Isaiah 7:14 "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call Him Emmanuel (which means 'God is with us')."

In the fulfillment of HIS story, we find the fulfillment of OUR story.

In His promises, we find every need met.

2 Corinthians 1:20 "For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ."

Philippians 4:19 "My God will meet **all your needs** according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus."

Joshua 21:45 "Not a single one of all the good promises the Lord had given to the family of Israel was left unfulfilled; everything He had spoken came true." 2 Samuel 22:31 "God's way is perfect. All the Lord's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to Him for protection."

Psalm 12:6 "The Lord's promises are pure, like silver refined in a furnace, purified seven times over."

Never allow the presence of difficulty to cause you to question the presence of God.

Hebrews 10:23 "God can be trusted to keep His promise."

2. Jesus is God's <u>PRESENCE</u> <u>WITH US</u>.

Matthew 1:23 "They will call Him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us."

Christmas means God came to live among us so that He could live in us.

John 14:23 "Jesus replied, 'All who love Me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and We will come and make Our home with each of them."

Exodus 33:16 "Your presence among us sets Your people and me apart from all other people on the earth."

2 Corinthians 3:16 & 18 "Whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord - who is the Spirit - makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image."

You don't become like Jesus by IMITATION. You become like

Jesus by HABITATION. You are CHANGED by HIS PRESENCE.

3. Jesus is God's <u>POWER</u> for <u>My DESTINY</u>.

Matthew 1:21 "You are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Hebrews 7:25 "Therefore **He is also able to save to the uttermost** those
who come to God through Him, since
He always lives to make intercession
for them."

Psalm 47:7-9 "God is the King over all the earth. God reigns above the nations, sitting on His holy throne. For all the kings of the earth belong to God."

Psalm 89:6-8 "Who in all of heaven can compare with the Lord? What mightiest angel is anything like the Lord? The highest angelic powers stand in awe of God. He is far more awesome than all who surround His throne. O Lord God of Heaven's Armies! Where is there anyone as mighty as You, O Lord? You are entirely faithful."

Isaiah 40:28-29 "**The Lord is the everlasting God**, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of His understanding."

Colossians 2:9 "In Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body."

Matthew 28:20 "Jesus said, 'I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Memory Verse: Matthew 28:20 "Jesus said, 'I am with you always, even to the end of the age."