"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign; the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son, shall name him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

O Come! O Come Emmanuel!

How and why did this iconic name, Immanuel/Emmanuel just suddenly appear in the prophecies of Isaiah? Maybe a clue is in the Hebrew meaning of the name Isaiah, *"Yahweh is salvation."* Out of the mouth of the Prophet Isaiah poured the most powerful prophecies about Salvation Incarnate. So much so, that rabbinical students are forbidden from reading Isaiah 53.

Emmanuel is the personal Presence of God with His people.

"Immanuel", that is, "Im-mā-nū" (with us) and El (God), means "God is with us." Look at what Biblehub says about the Hebrew preposition "im":

It "is primarily used to denote association, companionship, or presence. It conveys the idea of being in the company of or in conjunction with someone or something. It is often used to express <u>relationships</u>, <u>alliances</u>, <u>or the presence of</u> <u>God with His people</u>."

"In ancient Hebrew culture, the concept of being 'with' someone carried significant weight. It implied not only physical presence but also <u>support</u>, <u>alliance</u>, <u>and shared purpose</u>. The idea of God being 'with' His people is a recurring assurance of His guidance, protection, and blessing."

So when the Prophet Isaiah gives the name Immanuel/Emmanuel, he is telling us that God is bringing His Presence into the world in a way that we may be in an intimate, personal relationship with Him. How profound!

Rejoicing Before Our Heavenly Father and Christ Jesus!

Thank You! And Halleluia!

- Dear Heavenly Father, at this time when the world celebrates the birth of your Son Jesus Yeshua Messiah, I give You thanks and great gratitude for this gift! No words are adequate for the love and gratitude I hold for You and your great gift to my heart and to all of humanity, your son Jesus Christ Yeshua.
- We proclaim Isaiah 9:5-6, "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, Mighty God, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and Shalom there will be no end." Lord God, let Your Son's government increase mightily on earth and in our country at this time!
- We pray, loose your Shalom as a tsunami of Grace across our lands! Let it be a healing salve, a balm of Gilead, to heal the wounds of divisiveness; to heal the wounds of betrayal, betrayed by our own government as it has put us in so many kinds of bondage; to heal hearts and souls; to heal the wounds in relationships, families and marriages; to heal the soul of America from its normalization of murder of babies.
- Loose your Shalom across our lands as a deliverance from addictions, gender dysphoria, media gaslighting, and all wicked programs from the adversary. Increase your Son's government across our lands — the spiritual law of order, godly ordering, your moral laws and reasoning. Let it topple the disordered wickedness in corrupt judicial systems and courts. Let it remove all corrupt ones from the bench and see them replaced with all and only godly, law-abiding men and women; that upon Yeshua's shoulders shall our governments rest.

Fill the Width of Our Land!

Dear Lord God, as Your Word proclaims in Isaiah 8:8, "But his outspread wings will fill the width of your land, Emmanuel!", let your outspread wings fill the width of our America. Take full dominion of our nation Lord God! Let Emmanuel, God be with us. Let your Presence flush out all of the wickedness and wicked ones, all enemies foreign and domestic, all plans and schemes of the enemy to harm our nation. May

your Presence with us, Emmanuel, purify our lands of the culture of death and manipulation of humans that were made in your image.

Awaken our people to the preciousness of life in You, in their divine heritage; that it will make them fierce protectors of life, fierce protectors of their own body temple; fierce defenders of your Son Yeshua; fierce defenders of America as one nation under God.

Trust, Humility & Obedience

- Dear Heavenly Father, Mary, the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, demonstrates an unfathomable kind of trust, humility and obedience when presented with the Word that she will supernaturally conceive Messiah.
- As Luke 1:28-33 describes her visitation by Archangel Gabriel: "'Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."
- It is hard to imagine her thoughts and emotions. Lord God, give me the faith and trust of Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Luke 1:34-35 says: "But Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?' And the angel said to her in reply, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."
- Lord God, give me the purity of heart that Mary surely possessed, that would cause her to answer in Luke 1:38: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

Trusting in Your Voice

Lord God, Saint Joseph, foster father of our Lord Jesus Christ, faced an almost impossible task, having to choose between his honor and his wife who was inexplicably pregnant. As Matthew 1:20 -23 describes: "Such was his intention

when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means 'God is with us.'"

Dear Heavenly Father, help me to trust in your voice when You are speaking to me. Help me to always keenly discern your voice and direction and do what you are asking me to do without hesitation or delay. Help me to always be obedient to you, even if it is not easy or according to societal norms. Give me strength and forbearance to always trust and heed your voice, just as Joseph did.

Faith and Courage of the Magis

- Dear Heavenly Father, the three Magis travelled a long distance over a period of many months, to reach the infant Jesus. They were driven by a sign in the sky and an incredible faith that they were being led to Messiah. They also had to face King Herrod and went another way to return to their homelands to escape him. What faith and courage!
- Matthew 2:1-2 proclaims: "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'" Lord God, fill me with that kind of faith and courage. Fill me with that kind of strength and love.
- The Magis came from totally different cultures and spiritual backgrounds to meet your Emmanuel, to meet your Son in person and to venerate him. They were not raised with the faith to do so, they were not part of the Judaic culture. All of this made their faith all the more remarkable. Lord God, help me to have this kind of fearless faith, that it will lead others to You, heart to Heart, spirit to Spirit.

His Dominion is Vast!

- Dear Heavenly Father, we proclaim Isaiah 9:6, that "His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, upon David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!" Heavenly Father, when your Son entered this fallen realm, He brought Divine Faith, Hope and Love with him, as his very self. He planted it as a seed for all of humanity to live by and attain. He activated it for our own DNA to come back on line as "made in Your image."
- Lord God, activate the dominion of your Son here on the earth and in our country like never before! Activate his vast and forever peaceful dominion, that shall be sustained by his judgment and justice now and forever. Send out record numbers of legions and legions of your holy angels to empower Jesus Yeshua's dominion here on the earth! We are boldly asking! Do it now in this Christmas season for Christmas miracles to abound!
- Heavenly Father, let Jesus Yeshua's dominion shut down the dominions of wickedness! Let there be supernatural, inexplicable victories over wicked forces, peoples, agendas, agencies and operations! Let there be a domino effect, one wicked one falling after another. Take out their queens and their kings and all their pawns Lord God! Take out their chessboards! Let the zeal of the Lord of hosts do this now! In Jesus Yeshua's name!

And He Shall Reign Forever and Ever!

- Dear Heavenly Father, as your own Word in Exodus 15:18 says: "The LORD shall reign forever and ever!"
- We proclaim Revelations 11:15, "The kingdom of the world now belongs to our Lord and to his Anointed, and he will reign forever and ever."
- We proclaim Revelations 11:17, "We give thanks to you, Lord God almighty, who are and who were. For you have assumed your great power and have established your reign."
- ◆ A King is born in Bethlehem and He shall reign forever and ever! Amen!

Sealing Prayer:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Halleluia! John 1:1-5