

O COME! O COME EMMANUEL!

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*“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:  
The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,  
and will call him Immanuel.”*

Isaiah 7:14

## **In the Midst of Great Darkness, Comes Emmanuel**

This is the season we celebrate the gift of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is sad that there are Christians who believe this is a pagan holiday. We celebrate our own birthdays. We should surely celebrate the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pagans are gonna pagan. Christians give glory and thanks to God for sending us a Savior. We do this as Christmas. It is right and just to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ, Yeshua Hamasheach.

God could have sent His Son as a grown man... just had him appear on earth. Yet He sent him as a human being, nine months in his mother's womb, being birthed through a woman, coming into this world as a baby. *Why?*

We have a different feeling of love for a baby than we do for an adult. God draws us into a love relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ beginning with him as a precious baby.

***God draws us into a love relationship with Emmanuel,  
Jesus the Christ.***

We are called into a love relationship with God. As humans, it is easier and more natural to love what we can see, feel and touch — what we can relate to.

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What the Word Says About Emmanuel

It is profound to note that the only three times we see the word *Emmanuel* or *Immanuel* in the Sacred Scriptures, it is when there exists in the lands great turmoil and tumult. Biblically, three is a number of confirmation; as reflected as God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Emmanuel or *Immanuel* is a Hebrew word comprised of “*Immanu*” meaning “with us”, and “*el*” meaning God; so “*God is with us*”. We see this sacred word preceding and foretelling God’s impending response to the dangers and wickedness that abound.

It is a word of hope and rescue. It is a word of justice and salvation. It is a word of comfort and God’s love. God is coming to the rescue. When God is with us, *Emmanuel*, He will right the ship. He will defeat our foes. He will provide us a safe haven under His wings.

Emmanuel is a word of hope and rescue.

The First “Emmanuel”

Immanuel is first found in the book of Isaiah (7:14) where the prophet Isaiah informs Judah King Ahaz, of a coming sign from God: “*Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel.*” This promise is given during a time not unlike today — a time of great societal and political upheaval and brings a hopeful assurance of God's coming presence and deliverance from enemies through Him.

So when we declare: “O come! O come Emmanuel!”, it is a richness of faith, gratitude, hope, joy and love for our savior Jesus Christ. Halleluia!

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## The Second “Emmanuel”

In Isaiah 8:8 & 10, *Immanuel* appears again to prophesy an Assyrian invasion; where the land is declared: “*Your land, O Immanuel.*”

**So when we cry: “O come! O come Emmanuel!”**, we are marking our land as the domain of Jesus Christ, Yeshua Hamasheach.

## The Third “Emmanuel”

The third time we see *Emmanuel* is now the beginning of the Good News, the Gospel, where God is going to actually incarnate as a human man to save not just one ‘chosen’ people, but all of humankind. This is a profound and radical expansion of God’s grace and salvation promise.

Matthew 1:22-23 proclaims: “*All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel’.*”

**So when we sing in praise and worship: “O come! O come Emmanuel!”**, we are raising the incense of our prayers to God’s Heavenly throne and home, and we are declaring His Kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven. We are claiming the whole earth for Emmanuel Messiah. Halleluia!

## The Presence of Emmanuel — God is With Us

Perhaps we have come to take for granted the availability of God and His Son being present with us in our lives. Perhaps we become too mental or rote in our Christian walk. Perhaps we become so caught up in our own lives in this crazy world, that we neglect to feed our relationship with Christ Jesus.

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What would we look like if we knew Jesus Yeshua was always with us, *Emmanuel*; always bearing witness to our life, our character, our thoughts, words, actions and deeds?

What virtues would we possess if we truly knew Jesus is with us?

In this season of Emmanuel — O Come! O Come Emmanuel!, let's give thanks and praise for His Birth. Let's seek and find the deeper treasures that are offered to us through His Presence. Let's renew our marriage vows to our Bridegroom, Yeshua, Jesus the Christ — *Emmanuel*.

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***Let Us Pray Together...***

***Dear Heavenly Father, we come to You as your Intercessors, standing in the gap for America, which has been dedicated to You, created by You, covenanted with You, to celebrate and give thanks for the birth of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Yeshua Hamasheach.***

***We give You thanks and praise for His Birth! We repent for taking His birth for granted, taking for granted what You gave us in Emmanuel — the ever-eternal Presence of God Incarnate, God with us, God walking with us every moment of our lives. How profound! What an unfathomable gift!***

***Colossians 1:15-17 perfectly encapsulates why we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, Yeshua: "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or***

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rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

We come this Christ-mas season, to renew our marriage vows to our Bridegroom, Yeshua, Jesus the Christ — Emmanuel. As we cry out: O Come! O Come Emmanuel! Help us to know and experience the deeper treasures that are offered to us through Your Holy Presence. Help us to fulfill Your purpose in and through us — to walk as You, to possess Your virtues of abiding love, kindness and compassion; and utter, loving submission to the Holy Will of God our Father.

God is With Us!

- ◆ Dear Abba Father, thank you for giving us the profound gift of Your Son Jesus the Christ, Yeshua Hamasheach, as the gift of our salvation, redemption from our sins and sin nature, the hope of eternal life with You and Christ Jesus; a life beyond this imperfect and challenging world.
- ◆ Your Word is true and demonstrates Your faithfulness, that You did not forget us down here on earth! We celebrate the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy 600 years later as Matthew 1:23 proclaims: *“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (“God with us”).”*
- ◆ Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to us as a human being, to trace and track the experiences and challenges of our human experiences in this fallen world. Your birth brought faith in a Messiah into human form, and gave us the inception of divine hope, a holy virtue.
- ◆ Dear Lord God, Your Word in Psalm 139:7-12 convicts us that *Emmanuel* is truly always with us: *“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there*

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*Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall fall on me,' even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You."*

- ◆ Dear Jesus, I repent for living a life forgetting that You truly are always with me, *Emmanuel*, even when I do not discern it to be so or have carelessly forgotten it to be so. I repent for not acting as I should have, had I remembered and truly believed You were always walking beside me, bearing witness to my life.
- ◆ Holy Father God and Lord Jesus Christ, I truly repent for all the ways I have not lived in the remembrance and actions of the reverence You deserve; as Revelation 19:16 proclaims: *"On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords."* King of kings Jesus Yeshua, I love thee and honor thee as the King of my heart.

### "The Set Time"

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word shows us that You have "set times", times that You have determined for Your works, including the coming of Your Son Jesus Messiah, *Emmanuel*.
- ◆ For Galatians 4:4-5 says: *"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship."*
- ◆ Matthew 24:44 warns us not to become complacent or lazy in our Christian life: *"So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."* How sobering!

### The Word Became Flesh

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, in this Christ-mas season, the time in which we honor and celebrate the birth of Your Son coming as an incarnate man, thank you for releasing such profound love to all of humanity, to this

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fallen world. Whole peoples and civilizations have been transformed by the gift of Your Son who walked as a man.

- ◆ John 1:1-5 gives witness and we proclaim in celebration: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”*
- ◆ Halleluia! Amen! And ALL Glory be to God!

Emmanuel Brings Us His Virtues

- ◆ Lord God, whilst Your Incarnate Word brings salvation to souls, He also brings conviction to be like him, to possess his virtues. This is a tall order! But Jesus asked us to *love one another as He has loved us*. If it were not possible, He would not have exhorted us to do so.
- ◆ Lord Jesus Christ, You convict me with your warning and exhortation in Revelations 3:3-6 not to take for granted the time I have to purify my character and temperament: *“So then, if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. But you [still] have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes [contaminated their character and personal integrity with sin]; and they will walk with Me [dressed] in white, because they are worthy (righteous).”*
- ◆ *“He who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God] will accordingly be dressed in white clothing; and I will never blot out his name from the Book of Life, and I will confess and openly acknowledge his name before My Father and before His angels [saying that he is one of Mine]. He who has an ear, let him hear and heed what the Spirit says to the churches.”*
- ◆ Lord Jesus, help me to possess your holy virtues, to wear “white clothing”.

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## Emmanuel Brings Hope and Renewal for Nations

- ◆ Lord Jesus, *Emmanuel*, thank you! For the gift your birth and incarnation brought to whole nations — that gives us faith and hope that America WILL be restored, will be healed and renewed in You.
- ◆ For Isaiah 35:1-2 describes: *"The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God."*
- ◆ Lord Jesus, *Emmanuel*, You bring us hope as the one who reconciles opposing peoples and unifies them in You. We proclaim Ephesians 2:14-17, that You are *our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in Your flesh the law with its commands and regulations.*
- ◆ *Your purpose was to create in yourself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. You came and preached peace to us who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through You we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. And for this we say, thank you and all glory be to God!*

## Emmanuel is the Desire of Nations

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word in Haggai brings us the hope of our souls, that *"the desire of nations shall come"*; and we know that this is Christ Jesus Yeshua. *Emmanuel* is the sword of salvation for whole nations.
- ◆ Lord God, Abba, release Your *Emmanuel* as a sword of salvation, as proclaimed in Haggai 2:7, *"I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory," says the*



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Lord Almighty.” It truly IS the desire of all nations of peoples to be free, to be sovereign souls as You created them to be.

- ◆ Heavenly Father, we pray Haggai 2:9 for America now: *“‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”* Father God, let the glory and peace of the present America be ever-so greater than the former glory, as we will truly be one nation under the Most High God. Amen.

Emmanuel Brings Righteous Justice on Lands

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word in spirit tells us that Your Word Incarnate brings righteous justice to lands and peoples. We cannot win the war against satan by ourselves. We need your angels and hosts of Heaven. We need You and Your Son Messiah Jesus. So when we cry and sing, “O come! O come Emmanuel!”, we are asking You Lord God, to release Your holy warring angels, justice angels, Holy Fiat — Your Divine Will angels, across our lands. Do it now Lord God! Do it now!
- ◆ For Isaiah 8:6-10 declares: *“Because this people has rejected the gently flowing waters of Shiloah and rejoices over Rezin and the son of Remaliah, therefore the Lord is about to bring against them the mighty floodwaters of the Euphrates— the king of Assyria with all his pomp. It will overflow all its channels, run over all its banks and sweep on into Judah, swirling over it, passing through it and reaching up to the neck. Its outspread wings will cover the breadth of your land, **Immanuel!**”*
- ◆ *“Raise the war cry, you nations, and be shattered! Listen, all you distant lands. Prepare for battle, and be shattered! Prepare for battle, and be shattered! Devise your strategy, but it will be thwarted; propose your plan, but it will not stand, for **God is with us.**”*
- ◆ Yes Lord God Adonai, Father of Creation, Heaven and earth, YOU are with us. Your Son is with us. We thank you for giving us Your son is

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human form, to walk and suffer and conquer as a human man; to bring us faith, hope and love for a new humanity.

## Emmanuel is Ever-Present

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word Incarnate, Jesus the Christ, assured us that He is always and ever-more with us. This is a profound comfort and serves as guardrails for our character and virtues.
- ◆ As Jesus spoke in Matthew 28:20, *“Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*
- ◆ *“As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?”* Psalm 42:1-2
- ◆ James 4:8 exhorts us to purification: *“Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”*
- ◆ Revelation 3:20 tells me Lord Jesus, that You have always availed yourself to me: *“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”*

## SEALING PRAYER

*“Behold, I (Jesus) am coming quickly,  
and My reward is with Me,  
to give to each one according to the merit of his deeds  
(earthly works, faithfulness).  
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning  
and the End [the Eternal One].”  
Blessed are those who wash their robes  
[in the blood of Christ by believing and trusting in Him*

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*—the righteous who do His commandments],
so that they may have the right to the tree of life,
and may enter by the gates into the city.*

*Outside are the dogs [godless, impure, those of low moral character]
and the sorcerers [with their intoxicating drugs, and magic arts],
and the immoral persons [the perverted, molesters, adulterers],
and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and
practices lying (deception, cheating).”*

The Final Invitation

*“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you
and to give you assurance of these things for the churches.
I am the Root (the Source, the Life) and the Offspring of David,
the radiant and bright Morning Star.’
The Holy Spirit and the bride (the church, believers) say,
‘Come.’ And let the one who hears say,
‘Come.’ And let the one who is thirsty come;
let the one who wishes take and drink
the water of life without cost.”*

Amen and Amen.

Revelations 22:12-17

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*“For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

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*Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.*

*He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this."*

Amen and Amen.

Isaiah 9:6-7