

## Emmanuel: The Personal Appearance of God

A Series of Studies to Celebrate Our Savior's Birth

### The Ever-present Effort to Eliminate Emmanuel

—Matthew 2; Luke 4; 1 John 2:18–29; and supporting passages

—**Matthew 2:7–16** 7 Then Herod secretly called the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him." 9 After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way. 13 Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord \*appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him." 14 So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt. 15 He remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called My Son." 16 Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became very enraged, and sent and slew all the male children who were in Bethlehem and all its vicinity, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the magi.

—**Luke 4:28–30** 28 And all the people in the synagogue were filled with rage as they heard (Jesus say) these things; 29 and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him down the cliff. 30 But passing through their midst, He went His way.

—**John 8:57–59** 57 So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." 59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

—**1 John 2:18–24; 28–29** 18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us. 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know. 21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth. 22 Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. 23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. 24 As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. ... 28 Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming. 29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.

#### Reviewing the Biblical Context Relating to our Study About Emmanuel:

- 1}** Isaiah 7:14 —The Lord's sign: a virgin with a child called Immanuel
- 2}** Matthew 1:22-23 —Fulfillment of Isaiah 7:14: "God with us."
- 3}** John 1:14 —"Now the Word became flesh and took up residence among us!"
- 4}** John 17:14 —"I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."
- 5}** 2 Timothy 3:12–14 —"Now in fact all who want to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But evil people and imposters will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived themselves. You, however, must continue in the things you have learned and given you confidence."

—Relevant Events during Jesus' Life on Earth:

- 1— The visit of the Magi {Matthew 2:1–22}
  
- 2— The temptation by the devil {Luke 4:1–13}
  
- 3— The reaction to Jesus' teaching in Galilee {Luke 4:14–30}
  
- 4— A confrontation with the Jewish leaders {John 8:30–59}
  
- 5— During the Feast of the Dedication {John 10:22–39}
  
- 6— The conspiracy to kill Jesus secretly {John 11:47–57}
  
- 7— Jesus' warnings to His faithful followers {various texts}

Using 1 John 2:18–29 To Tie These Truths Together:

- 1} The Adversary.....  
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- 2} His goal is to.....  
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- 3} The..... &..... of Emmanuel is what  
God has..... to..... us!
  
- A
  
- B
  
- I
  
- D
  
- E