

Emmanuel: The Personal Appearance of God

A Series of Studies to Celebrate Our Savior's Birth

Emphasizing the Example of Emmanuel

—Philippians 2:5–11

—**Philippians 2:5–11** 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

—**1 Corinthians 11:17–26** 17 Now in giving the following instruction I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. 18 For in the first place, when you come together as a church I hear there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. 19 For there must in fact be divisions among you, so that those of you who are approved may be evident. 20 Now when you come together at the same place, you are not really eating the Lord's Supper. 21 For when it is time to eat, everyone proceeds with his own supper. One is hungry and another becomes drunk. 22 Do you not have houses so that you can eat and drink? Or are you trying to show contempt for the church of God by shaming those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I praise you? I will not praise you for this! 23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, 24 and after he had given thanks he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25 In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26 **For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Introducing our Study with Some Biblical Context:

- 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 ... 17, 18 "Now the Word became flesh" and revealed God's glory!

—**When Jesus was born**, God became a physical **RESIDENT** of earth.

Emmanuel = God with us!

—Emmanuel = an "indwelling" **RELATIONSHIP** (God's Holy Spirit)

—Emmanuel = an "incarnate" **REVELATION** of God

—Emmanuel = an "infinite" **REDEEMER** for sinners

—Emmanuel = an "influential" **REFORM** of religion

Philippians 1:27–2:18

One of the most powerful biblical summaries
of the earthly life of Christ!

—1— **The EVIDENCE of Emmanuel** {Philippians 1:27-30}

—**Faithful followers of Christ provide clear evidence that God is with us**

—2— **The ENCOURAGEMENT of Emmanuel** {Philippians 2:1-4}

—**When God is with us, our lives are transformed!**

—3— The **EXAMPLE** of Emmanuel {Philippians 2:5-11}

—Since God is with us, our attitudes & actions should be characterized by humility!

—4— The **EFFECT** of Emmanuel {Philippians 2:12-18}

—Because God is with us, He makes it possible for us to appear as His lights in the midst of our dark (crooked & perverse) generation!

Three Truths to “Take-Away” from this Study

{1} Religion is

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{2} Jesus came to earth to

{3} God has given us the

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One final TRUTH that relates to our study today:

—No where in the Bible are we specifically or directly instructed to celebrate Christmas —(or Easter)!

—But every time we personally participate in the Lord’s Supper, we’re celebrating Christmas and Easter combined!

—Philippians 2:5-11 not only exhorts and encourages us to follow the **EXAMPLE** of humility demonstrated by our Lord Jesus, it also paints a magnificent portrait what we’re recognizing in the bread and the cup in the Lord’s Memorial Supper.

Our Lord Jesus Christ wasn’t **obsessed** with **POWER, PRESTIGE, PRIDE** or **POSITION**.

He **HUMBLY EMPTIED** Himself when He became a human!

This made it possible that He could become our **SACRIFICE FOR SIN**.

—Our Lord Jesus Christ was **obedient** to the **POINT OF DEATH**.

He died on a **CROSS**—as a **CRIMINAL**, even though He never sinned!

—The bread symbolizes our Lord’s body!

—That was only possible because of His birth!

—The cup symbolizes our Lord’s blood sacrifice!

—That reminds us of Easter!