

Jesus – God with Us

Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew 1:18-21 – Save His People

¹⁸ The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly. ²⁰ But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Why the name Jesus? Well, the name of Jesus literally means “The LORD saves”. And this is an emphatic statement in Hebrew. Which, side note, Jesus is the Greek pronunciation of the Hebrew name Joshua. Therefore, around Israel they would have referred to Jesus as Joshua.

Matthew 1:22-25 – God with Us

*²² Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ **See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel**, which is translated “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord’s angel had commanded him. He married her ²⁵ but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.*

One of the amazing aspects of Jesus is that He was God with Us. God Himself came to us. It was always God’s plan to come to us.

Ancient Confirmation

1 Peter 1:18-20 (CSB): *¹⁸ For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was revealed in these last times for you.*

Jesus was known as the spotless Lamb before the foundation of the world.

Revelation 13:8 (CSB): *All those who live on the earth will worship it, everyone whose name was not written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slaughtered.*

-Or written in the book of life of the Lamb who was slaughtered from the foundation of the world

There is question about where the “from the foundation of the world” belongs. Is it describing the Book of Life or the Lamb? Either way, before the foundation of the world...Jesus was coming for His people.

Prophetic Confirmation

Genesis 3:15 (CSB): *I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.* ~4,000 years before Christ.

Isaiah 7:14 (CSB): *Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel.* ~700 years before Christ.

New Testament Confirmation

Matthew 3:16-17 (CSB): *¹⁶ When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."*

At the baptism of Jesus, the Father declared Jesus to be the Son of God.

Matthew 16:13-16 (CSB): *¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ "But you," he asked them, "who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."*

Peter believed that it was obvious that Jesus is the Son of God.

Matthew 17:1-8 (CSB): *After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother John and led them up on a high mountain by themselves. ² He was transfigured in front of them, and his face shone like the sun; his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it's good for us to be here. If you want, I will set up three shelters here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased. Listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown and were terrified. ⁷ Jesus came up, touched them, and said, "Get up; don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up they saw no one except Jesus alone.*

For a moment, the veil of Jesus' flesh was lifted and Peter, James and John beheld the glory of the Son of God. Then the Father confirms again (much like at the baptism) that Jesus is the Son of God. This was an important moment for the disciples. While Jesus looked "ordinary", He was very much different. He wasn't merely a man, He was the Son of God in flesh.

Matthew 27:54 (CSB): *When the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"*

Even the Roman Gentile guards recognized that Jesus was clearly the Son of God.

John 20:30-31 (CSB): *³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

The whole purpose of the book of John, was so that the reader would walk away with the clear understanding that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God – Immanuel.

Eternal Confirmation

Hebrews 13:8 (CSB): *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

Jesus is fully God:

- Before the creation of the universe,
- During His earthly ministry,
- Today in Heaven,
- And forever on the new heavens and the new earth.

Jesus is Immanuel.