

CUR DEUS HOMO **WHY GOD BECAME MAN**

To Be a Sign
Isaiah 7:14
December 4, 2022

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” - Isaiah 7:14

I. WHO IS IMMANUEL?

- This is one of the most difficult and debated passages in all of Scripture.
- We have the answer, or least part of the answer. Immanuel is Jesus of Nazareth (Matt. 1:18-24).
- Isaiah’s prophecy is likely a prophecy that is fulfilled in more than one way. A “two-stage” or “dually fulfilled” prophecy. It is fulfilled partially in Isaiah’s day, and finally in the birth of Messiah.
- The birth of Immanuel is a sign, first to King Ahaz, finally and fully to us. God is with us!

II. THE VIRGIN BEARS A SON

- The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is a primary doctrine. Not one to be shrugged off dismissively (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18, 25; Luke 1:34).
- Jesus’ birth came under peculiar circumstance. That reality may have been fodder for gossip (John 8:39-41).

III. WHAT’S IN A NAME?

- In the birth of Immanuel, God has come to dwell with us (Matt. 1:23).
- The name “Immanuel” was a name given by humans. The name “Jesus” was given by God (Matt. 1:21; Luke 1:31).
- Jesus will:
 1. Save his people from their sins (Matt. 1:21)
 2. Be great (Luke 1:32)
 3. Be called the Son of the Most High (Luke 1:32)
 4. Be given the throne of David by God (Luke 1:32)
 5. Reign over the house of Jacob forever (Luke 1:33)
 6. Have a never ending kingdom (Luke 1:33)
 7. Be called “holy,” the Son of God (Luke 1:35)

KNOW: The birth of Jesus of Nazareth is a sign to us. God dwells with us in his Son. We have become a visited planet, with an immanent God.

DO: Heed the sign. God is with us... and you if you know him, live like it.

Suggested Reading:

God With Us: The Miracle of Christmas by John MacArthur (LifePoint Library #394 Mac)

For children:

Prepare Him Room: Celebrating the Birth of Jesus by Mary Machowski (LifePoint Library # 294 Mac)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25 & Luke 1:26-38

1. How did the birth of Jesus Christ come about?
2. Why is Isaiah 7:14 so hard to figure out?
3. Why is the doctrine of the virgin birth so important?
4. What does it mean that God dwells with us? In what way is this true?
5. What does the incarnation of God’s Son mean to you? What does it mean to this world?
6. What are your points of application from this text, and from the message Sunday?