

The Promise

Part 5: God With Us

December 24, 2022

The Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us'). (Isaiah 7:14, New Living Translation)

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. . . . All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census.

And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them. (Luke 2:1-7, NLT)

All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" (Matthew 1:22-23, NLT)

WHAT DOES THE PROMISE, "GOD IS WITH US" MEAN?

1. Jesus knows exactly how I feel!

The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger. (Luke 2:11-12, NLT)

Jesus the Son of God. . . . understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. (Hebrews 4:14-15, NLT)

2. Jesus made a way for me to be forgiven!

The Bible tells us, "When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned." (Romans 5:12, NLT)

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. (Romans 5:6, NLT)

Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. (Hebrews 2:14, NLT)

3. Jesus will never leave me!

I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:20, NLT)

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate [or Comforter, Encourager, Counselor] who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. . . . you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. (John 14:16-17, NLT)

[Jesus] has said, "I will never leave you and I will never abandon you." (Hebrews 13:5, New English Translation)

4. Jesus will make everything right!

Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever. (Revelation 21:3-4, NLT)