

**“GOD WITH US”**  
**SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 4:1-5**  
**TEXT: MATTHEW 1:23**

**INTRO:** When God came to earth in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, not only was it a great HISTORICAL EVENT, but it CHANGED THE WORLD! For instance: 1) During Christ’s time on the earth, the world experienced more peace than it ever had up until that period of time. 2) The calendar itself is based upon the birth of Christ. 3) The entire religious system of the world changed. 4) People had a new understanding of Who God is. Of course all of that, and many more things that CHANGED THE WORLD THROUGH THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST only stands to reason because it is was all the plan of God to offer REDEMPTION TO MANKIND which impacts EVERY PART OF THE CULTURE. **YES! WHEN JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD, IT WAS TRULY “GOD WITH US,” AND THE WORLD HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME SINCE!** During the Christmas Season we would do well to think upon these things, but sometimes we get so involved in the activities of the time that those things flee our thoughts. **Even though it is true that the incarnation of Christ was a GREAT HISTORICAL EVENT THAT CHANGED THE WORLD, THERE ARE TREMENDOUS SPIRITUAL TRUTHS THAT WE BENEFIT FROM IN 2014 THAT MUST NEVER BE OVERLOOKED.** So, let’s consider the TRUTH OF GOD WITH US!

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**I. “GOD WITH US” WAS A PROPHETIC STATEMENT**

MATTHEW 1:23

A. Given by God’s Special Angel – probably Gabriel – who was God’s angel to Israel. Scripture seems to indicate that nations have personal angels. Note how Gabriel was involved with Israel.

1. Gabriel announced the 490 year plan of God from Daniel’s day up until the actual coming of the Messiah to the earth – Daniel 9:21-27
2. Gabriel announced the birth of John the Baptist – Luke 1:13-20
3. Gabriel announced the conception of Jesus Christ to the Virgin Mary  
-Luke 1:26-38

B. Given to Fulfill a long held Prophecy – Isaiah 7:14

C. Given to Joseph to explain God’s plan for the Messiah – Matthew 1:18

1. The Messiah would save His people from their sins.
2. The Messiah would be called “Emmanuel,” – “GOD WITH US.”

ILLUSTRATION:

**II. “GOD WITH US” WAS A PERCEPTIVE TRUTH**

JOHN 1:1,2,14-18

A. The term “WORD” means **“THE EXPRESSION OF A CONCEPT.”** Therefore in reference to Christ it **expresses the fact that He is the COMPLETE TRUTH OF WHO GOD IS!** To look upon Christ is to see God!

B. Jesus Christ, as GOD WITH US was a profound expression of God in FULL HUMANITY. **JUST THINK ABOUT THAT A BIT...IN JESUS CHIRST:**

1. The Infinite God as a human became finite for a period of time.
2. The Eternal God as a human became conformed to time.
3. The Invisible God became visible.
4. The Supernatural God became natural for a season.

C. Jesus Christ STILL REMAINED FULLY GOD! And even though His GREAT SHIKINAH GLORY was veiled, some of God’s GLORY was revealed in certain glimpses. IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN SHUT OFF TOTALLY!

1. It was seen at the His Transfiguration – Matthew 17:1-8
2. It was seen in His Attributes – The miracles He performed
3. It was seen in His Characteristics – Without sin.
4. It was seen in His Teachings – Totally Divine.

D. Jesus Christ Presented the FULL GRACE AND TRUTH of God!

ILLUSTRATION:

**III. “GOD WITH US” WAS A PERFECT REALITY**

COLOSSIANS 1:15

A. As “GOD WITH US” Jesus was the EXACT IMAGE of God.

-John 14:9

B. As “GOD WITH US” Jesus REVEALED all that God is.

-John 10:30

ILLUSTRATION:

#### IV. “GOD WITH US” WAS A POWERFUL EMBODIMENT

COLOSSIANS 2:9

A. When Jesus walked upon the Earth THE POWER OF THE GODHEAD was in Him! He just limited its presentation!

B. When Jesus walked upon the Earth THE POWER OF THE GODHEAD was revealed at times in the miracles He performed.

1. The Bible records at least 36 miracles, but He did many more.

-John 21:25

2. The miracles recorded in the Bible were done for the purpose of Revealing Who Christ is – John 20:31.

ILLUSTRATION:

#### V. “GOD WITH US” WAS A PRODUCTIVE MANIFESTATION

1 TIMOTHY 3:16

NOTE: The “MYSTERY OF GODLINESS” in this text speaks of the “Hidden truths of the OT times that are revealed in the NT scriptures. Particularly the truths of SALVATION AND RIGHTEOUSNESS IN CHRIST THAT ARE EVIDENCED IN THE CHURCH. This text described some of the specific components of those truths that were REVEALED the moment Christ was born on earth.

NOTE THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS IN THE TEXT

A. “God was Manifest in the Flesh” – Jesus revealed all that God is.

B. “Justified in the Spirit” – “Justification” implies “Righteousness” and thus the Holy Spirit confirmed the RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD THROUGH JESUS as seen in His incarnation. HE HAD NO SIN!

C. “Seen of Angels” – Both the evil and the good angels watched Jesus

1. The Evil Angels – When He cast them out of people – Mark 1:34

2. The Good Angels – When they announced His resurrection

-Matthew 28:2

D. “Preached Unto the Gentiles” – Not only did the Jews hear the message of Christ, but so did the Gentiles, because the Jews rejected Him

-John 1:11,12

E. “Believed on in the World” – Many saw God in Christ and believed upon Him for their salvation.

F. “Received up Into Glory” – This indicates that the Father was pleased with the INCARNATE WORK OF CHRIST and welcomed Him back into Glory at His ascension.

**ALL OF THIS WAS DUE TO THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST! WITHOUT THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST, THAT IS “GOD WITH US,” NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN REVEALED!**

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION: That little three letter phrase, “GOD WITH US,” made a POWERFUL IMPACT UPON THE WORLD AND ALL OF HUMANITY. GOD WITH US IN JESUS CHRIST would have never been seen without the INCARNATION! So Christmas is NOT just a time for gifts and giving, but a time for us to TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHO GOD IS THROUGH CHRIST!

APPLICATION:

1) GOD WITH US IN CHRIST made our salvation possible!

2) GOD WITH US IN CHRIST is a present truth. He is still with us.

3) GOD WITH US IN CHRIST will be an eternal reality!

**DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, CHRIST SHOULD BE PRAISED AND WORSHIPPED MORE THAN EVER!!!! LET’S DO IT!**