

Why Celebrate Christmas?

Why Immanuel?

Matthew 1:23

December 18, 2022 – Bob Hightchew

Introduction

- A name really does matter.
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1. What is in a Name?

- When did the concept of last names come about and why?
- It appears that it was in the early middle-ages.
- Consider some of the Biblical names in Scripture:
 - Abraham –
 - Israel –
- Consider some of the names we have for God:
 - Elohim – **Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:26**
 - Yahweh – Self-Existing One – **Exodus 3:14**
 - Adonai – Lord and Master – **Romans 2:8; Ephesians 2:3; John 3:35-36**
 - El Shaddai – God Almighty – **Genesis 17:1**
 - Alpha/Omega – Beginning and End – **Revelation 1:8**
 - Commander of the Lord’s Army – **Joshua 5:15**
 - Savior – **Acts 13:23**

2. Why Immanuel?

- Immanuel – God with Us – **Matthew 1:23**
- Isaiah 7:14**
- Consider what the name Immanuel does NOT mean:
 - God Over Us – **Exodus 20:2**
 - God Above Us – **Isaiah 55:8-9**
 - God Under Us – **Matthew 16:18**
- The promise is to always be WITH us – but let’s look a little deeper:
 - Exodus 3:12**
 - Joshua 1:5**
 - Matthew 28:18-20**
- Jesus’ promise to us – **John 14:16-18**
- Psalms 9:9-10**
- Psalms 27:5**
- Joan Osborne – “*What If God were One of Us?*”