Adapted from:

www.sermonseeds.org/Master%20Index.htm For more downloadable teachings see: www.altogetherlovely.org (FREE TEACHINGS)

- 1. We have Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus...in Matthew 1:18-25,
- This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about:
 His mother Mary was pledged to be married to
 Joseph, but before they came together, she was
 found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. (Matthew 1:18-25)

- a. Matthew tells the story with a focus on Joseph.....
- b. Whereas Luke centers on Mary....

- 2. Noble qualities of Joseph are certainly seen in this passage...
- When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. (Matthew 1:24-25)

- a. His tender consideration for Mary.
- b. His willingness to bear ridicule.

-- Little else is known of him, for it is Joseph's adopted son who is the primary interest in Matthew's Gospel.

- 3. The word "gospel" means "good news", and hints of just how good that news is occurs in this passage...
- a. Especially when one contemplates the names by which the son of Mary was to be called
- b. Such names as "Jesus" and "Immanuel"

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us." (Matthew 18:21-23)

- In this lesson, we shall consider more closely these two names...
- a. One which describes His OFFICE (what was He to do?)
- b. One which describes His NATURE (who was He?)

First we note that in his dream, the angel of the Lord tells Joseph concerning the child to be born of Mary...

I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS" A. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THIS NAME...

1. A very common Jewish name, often given in memory of Joshua (Hebrew form of Jesus)

I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS" A. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THIS NAME...

- 2. It is interesting to compare these two figures of history
- a. Joshua led the nation of Israel into the promised land (Canaan)
- b. Jesus leads the people of God into the Promised Land (Heaven)

- I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS"
 B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...
- 1. Jesus (Joshua) means "God is Savior"
- 2. The son of Mary was rightfully called that, because "He will save His people from their sins" She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." (Matt.1:21)

- I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS"
 B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...
- 3. This Jesus would do by saving them...
- a. From the GUILT of sin
- 1) By offering His blood as the atonement for their sins
- But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! (Rom.5:8-9a)
- 2) When one is washed by the blood of Jesus, He truly becomes their Savior

b. From the POWER of sin

- 1) By sending His sanctifying Spirit to help His people break sin's dominion
- 2) Paul writes of this in Romans 8.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2)

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (Rom. 8:12-14)

- c. From the CONSEQUENCE of sin
- 1) Example: the wrath of God to come

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! (Romans 5:9)

for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. (1Thess 1:9-10)

- I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS"
 B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...
- d. Ultimately, from the PRESENCE of sin
- 1) Example: when we depart to "be with the Lord"

Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes

—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (Revelation 7:13-17)

- I. "YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS"
 B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...
- 4. And so the name of JESUS should be...
- a. A very encouraging name to heavy-laden sinners
- 1) Souls which desire salvation may draw near to the Father with confidence thru Christ
- 2) For it is His OFFICE (function, work) to show mercy

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (John 3:17)

- b. A very sweet and precious name to believers
- 1) For He continues to intercede in our behalf, to save us from our sins
- but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. (Hebrews 7:24-25)

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:14-16)

As stated in a popular hymn, "There is a Name I love to hear..." and that name is "Jesus"! It may have been common in the days of Jesus, but should be very special now to all who seek to be saved from their sins!

II. "THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL"

As Matthew recounts what the angel told Mary, he adds that the birth of Jesus also fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah in which it is said...

II. "THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL" A. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THIS NAME...

- 1. Isaiah's prophecy concerning this name is found in Isaiah
- Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)
- 2. In which a virgin would give birth to a child who would be called "Immanuel"

1. Immanuel literally means

"God is with us"

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us." (Matthew 1:23)

- 2. This name describes the Messiah's NATURE; i.e., that He is Deity!
- a. Other passages expound upon this aspect of Christ's nature
- 1) He is "Mighty God, Everlasting Father"

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

- 2) He is "God", possessing the "glory of God"; the Great "I AM", who shared in the glory of the Father prior to His incarnation.
- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. (John 1:1-3)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

- Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."
- "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"
- "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"
- At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds. (John 8:56-59)

And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

(John 17:5)

- "I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols. (Isaiah 42:8)
- (side note) "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. (John 17:24)

3) Declared to be "the Son of God with power" by virtue of His resurrection

regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, 4and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 1:3-4)

- 4) He was "equal with God" who willingly humbled Himself
- Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
 - but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

II. "THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL" B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11)

II. "THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL" B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...

5) In Him "dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily"

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, (Colossians 2:9)

II. "THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL" B. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS NAME...

- a. Human minds, finite and feeble, wrestle with this great mystery, but Jesus was "God manifested in the flesh"!
- Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great:
 He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit,
 was seen by angels, was preached among the nations,
 was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

 (1Timothy

3:16)

- 1. Would you have a strong foundation for your faith and hope?
- a. Then keep in constant view your Savior's name "IMMANUEL"

"God with us"

b. For having become flesh, God understands our human plight

For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

(Heb. 2:17-18)

- 2. Would you have sweet comfort in suffering and trial?
- a. Then keep in constant view your Savior's name "JESUS" ("God is Savior")

- b. For in sending His Son to die, God has offered a propitiation for our sins
- This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10)

Thus they called the Child, born of a virgin and raised by a carpenter.

By His resurrection from the dead, He proved true to His name.

Are you willing to obey Jesus as the One who was "God with us", and through whom "God is Savior"?

- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
- Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'
- Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' (Matt.7:21-23)

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God (John 1:1).

There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel (Numbers 24:17).

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times (Micah 5:2).

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14).

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given (Isaiah 9:6).

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:11).

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear

(Deuteronomy 18:15, Acts 3:20, 22).

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel (Luke 2:30-32).

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined (Isaiah 9:2).

The government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, (Isaiah 9:7).

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men (Luke 2:14)

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