

Wednesday Refuel "Immanuel" Isaiah 9:6

**Prophecy:** The Coming Messiah

**Old Testament Reference:** Isaiah 9:6

**New Testament Fulfillment:** Luke 1:35; 2:11, John 1:14; 3:16,17; Romans 8:32; 1John 4:10-14

**Isaiah 9:6** For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

unto us a son.

- **John 1:14** And the Word became 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 3:16-17** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.
- **Romans 8:31-32** What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
- **1John 4:10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

the government.

**Psalms 2:6-12** "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion." 7 "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You *are* My Son, Today I have begotten You.' 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth *for* Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.' " 10 Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. 11 Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish *in* the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

**Jeremiah 23:5-6** "Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

**Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

**1Corinthians 15:25** For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

**Revelation 19:16** And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

his name.

**Isaiah 7:14**; Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, **the virgin shall conceive** and bear a Son, and shall call His name **Immanuel**.

**Matthew 1:23**; "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which is translated, "God with us."

SIDE NOTE:

- The prophecy of Isa 7:14 included the foretelling of a unique birth ("Behold, the virgin shall conceive")
- the sex of the Child ("and bear a Son"),
- and the name of the child ("and [she] shall call His name Immanuel").
- Matthew adds the explanation that **Immanuel** means **God with us**.
- There is no record of Christ ever being called "Immanuel" while on earth; He was always called "Jesus."
- **Jesus—Immanuel—Son of God**: God with us. He is God manifest in human flesh. The word "Immanuel" is not a name or a title. It is a **descriptive term**. It characterizes a person. Jesus is Immanuel: God with us, God revealed in human flesh<sup>1</sup>

Counselor.

**Isaiah 28:29** This also comes from the LORD of hosts, *Who* is wonderful in **counsel and excellent in guidance**;

**1Corinthians 1:30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us **wisdom from God**—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—

**Colossians 2:3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of **wisdom** and **knowledge**.

The mighty God.

**John 1:1** :In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.;

**Romans 9:5** of whom *are* the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Amen.

**Titus 2:13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

**Hebrews 1:8** But to **the Son He says**: "**YOUR THRONE, O GOD**, IS FOREVER AND EVER; A SCEPTER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS THE SCEPTER OF YOUR KINGDOM.

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<sup>1</sup> Leadership Ministries Worldwide. (2004). [\*The Gospel according to Matthew: Chapters 1:1–16:12\*](#) (Vol. 1, p. 20). Chattanooga, TN: Leadership Ministries Worldwide.

## The everlasting Father.

**Proverbs 8:23** I have been established from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth. ;

**Hebrews 2:13-14** And again: "**I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM.**" And again: "HERE AM I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME." 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

## The Prince of Peace.

**Isaiah 53:5** But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for **our peace was upon Him,** And by **His stripes we are healed.**

**Psalms 72:3** The mountains will bring **peace to the people,** And the little hills, by righteousness.

**Psalms 85:10** Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.

**Luke 2:14** "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth **peace,** goodwill toward men!"

**Acts 10:36:** The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all—

Prophecy: Christ to be [born of a virgin](#)

Old Testament Reference: Isaiah 7:13-14

New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 1:26-31

**Isaiah 7:13-14** "Then he said, 'Hear now, **O house of David!** Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you **a sign:** **Behold, the virgin** shall **conceive** and bear a Son, and shall call His name **Immanuel.**' "

**"Virgin"** translates *'almâh*, a word used of an unmarried woman of marriageable age.

We know this passage speaks of Jesus because it says He will be known as **Immanuel**, meaning "God with Us." This was true of Jesus *in fact*. **Immanuel** speaks both of the **deity of Jesus** (*God with us*) and His identification and nearness to us. (*God with us*).

**Luke 1:26-31** Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 **to a virgin** betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was **Mary**. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "**Rejoice, highly favored one**, the **Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!**" 29 But when she saw him, she was **troubled** at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "**Do not be afraid**, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name **JESUS**.

#### VS:1:26, 27

- **In the sixth month** after his appearance to Zacharias (or after Elizabeth became pregnant), **Gabriel** reappeared—this time **to a virgin** named **Mary** who lived in the **city of Nazareth**, in the district of **Galilee**.
- Mary was **betrothed to a man** named **Joseph**, a lineal descendant **of David**, who inherited legal rights to the throne of David, even though he himself was a carpenter.
- In fact Betrothal was considered a much more binding contract than engagement is today.
- In fact, it could be broken only by a legal decree similar to divorce.

#### VS:1:28

The angel addressed Mary as one who was **highly favored**, one whom the Lord was visiting with special privilege.

Two points should be noted here:

- (1) The angel did *not* worship Mary or pray to her; he simply greeted her.
- (2) He did *not* say that she was “full of grace,” but **highly favored**.

29. Mary was understandably **troubled** by this greeting; she wondered what it meant.

**30,31 The angel** calmed her fears, then told her that **God** was choosing her to be the mother of the long-awaited Messiah.

Here we see the real humanity of the Messiah—you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son.

We also see his deity and His mission as Savior—and shall call His name JESUS (meaning ***Jehovah is the Savior***).

#### **Talk about Mary!**

God's favor does not automatically bring instant success or fame.

His blessing on Mary, the honor of being the mother of the Messiah, would lead to much pain:

- You know her peers would ridicule her;
- Her fiancé would come close to leaving her;
- Her son would be rejected and murdered.
- But through her son would come the world's only hope, and this is why Mary has been praised by countless generations.
- Her **submission** was part of God's plan to bring about our salvation.
- She humbly did what the Lord asked of her!!

**Matthew 1:19-25** Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, **behold**, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, **do not be afraid** to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name **JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.**" 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, **did as the angel of the Lord commanded him** and took to him his wife, 25 **and did not know her** till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

Lets talk a little about Joseph:

*Joseph, who discovered that his beloved bride was pregnant how painful at first this would be,*

*What a man of **character** he was,*

- *first not to make public their situation,*
- *and then to endure the public ridicule he must have gotten as the father of an illegitimate child.*

*Imagine, as Joseph struggled with this incredibly heavy issue,*

*how his heart must have leapt for **joy** when the angel told him that the woman he had chosen as his wife and the mother of his children was also the woman God had chosen to be the mother of His Son.*

*And think of his love for her, to keep his hands off of her until after she had given birth to Jesus.*

**Prophecy:** Jesus to be born in **Bethlehem**

Old Testament **Reference:** **Micah** 5:2

New Testament **Fulfillment:** Luke 2:4-7

**Micah 5:2** "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the **One to be Ruler in Israel**, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting. " Micah prophesied from about 740 to about 687 B.C., during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.

**Luke 2:4-7** "Joseph also went up from Galilee, **out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David**, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. "

**Bethlehem** is the "City of David" and the place where Jesus Christ was born, its about **five miles south of Jerusalem.**

When Jesus was born there, Bethlehem was only a small village (Matthew 2:1-16; Luke 2:4-6, 15; John 7:42). Under the law declared by Caesar Augustus, the emperor of Rome, **Joseph had to go to Bethlehem because he was part of the family of David** (Luke 2:4).

It is around 65 miles from Nazareth to Jerusalem,, It never says in the bible that Mary rode on a donkey.

Cathleen set when she was nine months pregnant she was exhausted all the time, she said she couldn't imagine going on a 65 mile trip.

**Prophecy:** Lamentation for the killing of [infants](#)

Old Testament **Reference:** Jeremiah 31:15

New Testament **Fulfillment:** Matthew 2:16-18

"Thus says the Lord: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.' " (**Jeremiah 31:15**)

"Then [Herod](#), when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; **and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under**, according to the time which he had determined from **the wise men**. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.' " (**Matthew 2:16-18**)

Unimaginable suffering was in the place where there ought to have been the greatest joy.

The birth of the Messiah should to have been the signal for universal joy in the land of Israel. And there would have been if there had been faith in God and His promise, but there was not.

**Prophecy:** To be called out of [Egypt](#)

Old Testament **Reference:** Hosea 11:1

New Testament **Fulfillment:** Matthew 2:13-15

**Hosea 11:1** "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son."

**Matthew 2:13-15** "Now when they had departed, behold, **an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream**, saying, 'Arise, take the young Child and His mother, **flee to Egypt**, and **stay there** until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.' **When he arose**, he took the young Child and His mother **by night** and **departed for Egypt**, and **was there until the death of Herod**, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "**Out of Egypt I called My Son**."



### The Wise Men:

**Matthew 2:1-2** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?" For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

**Matthew 2: 9-11** When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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### Interesting Facts about Christmas

#### How do we know that Jesus was not born in the Winter?

- Luke 2:8 speaks about the shepherds near Bethlehem who were in the fields, watching their flocks at night.
- Shepherds in that region did not keep their sheep out at night during the Winter because it was cold and sometimes even snowy, but they did keep them in the fields during the Fall, after the end-of-Summer harvest.
- At that time, the sheep could eat the stalks of grain left over after the harvest, and they would then fertilize the ground prior to the late Fall planting,
- Sheep were normally brought into centrally located pens or corrals as the weather turned colder and the rainy season began, especially at night.
- If this were not significant, it begs the question, "Why would Luke have mentioned it in such detail if not to convey a time reference?"

Also, Luke 2:1 says that when Mary was just about to give birth to Jesus, she and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem to fulfill their obligation to be counted in a Roman census.

- They did not travel in the Winter because it would have been much too hard. Rather, people traveled in the Fall, between the heat of Summer and the cold of Winter.
- And at that time of year the grain, and also some fruit, were ripe, and travelers were allowed to eat some of the "gleanings" as they passed by (Lev. 23:22).
- Besides, it was customary in Judea to do their tax collecting during this period, as the bulk of a farmer's income came at this time.

### What about the "three wise men"?

- First, the Bible **never** says there were three. It says that they brought three gifts: "gold (represents Royalty), frankincense (was a fragrance), and myrrh (was the ointment of death)."
- In that time, three men with such precious treasure traveling such a great distance, some of it through the land of their country's enemies, would have been easy prey for enemy soldiers or the many robbers who prowled the roads.
- It is therefore almost certain that they would have traveled in a much larger group, with adequate protection.
- We assume that there were three wise men because of the three gifts that were given: gold, incense, and myrrh ([Matthew 2:11](#)).
- However, the Bible does not say there were only three wise men.
- There could have been many more. Tradition says that there were three and that their names were Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, but since the Bible does not say, we have no way of knowing whether the tradition is accurate.
- It is a common misconception that the wise men visited Jesus at the stable on the night of His birth.
- **In fact**, the wise men came days, months, or possibly even years later.
- That is why [Matthew 2:11](#) says the wise men visited and worshiped Jesus in a **house, not at the stable.**
  
- We know that the magi were wise men from "the East," most likely Persia, or modern-day Iran.
- This means the wise men traveled 800 to 900 miles to see the Christ child.
- Most likely, the magi knew of the writings of the prophet Daniel, who in time past had been the chief of the court seers in Persia.
- [Daniel 9:24-27](#) includes a prophecy which gives a timeline for the birth of the Messiah. Also, the magi may have been aware of the prophecy of Balaam (who was from the town of Pethor on the Euphrates River near Persia) in [Numbers 24:17](#). Balaam's prophecy specifically mentions a "star coming out of Jacob."
  
- The wise men were guided to look for the King of the Jews by a miraculous stellar event, the "Star of Bethlehem," which they called "His star" ([Matthew 2:2](#)).
- They consulted with King Herod in Jerusalem concerning the birth of Christ and were so directed to Bethlehem ([Matthew 2:4-8](#)).
- They followed God's guidance joyfully ([Matthew 2:10](#)).
- Their gifts for Jesus were costly, and they worshiped Him.
- God warned them in a dream against returning to Herod, so, in defiance of the king, they left Judea by another route ([Matthew 2:12](#)).

So, the magi were men who

- 1) read and believed God's Word,
- 2) sought Jesus,
- 3) recognized the worth of Christ,
- 4) humbled themselves to worship Jesus, and
- 5) obeyed God rather than man.
- **They were truly wise men!**



## Why December 25th

Christmas or "Christ's Mass," the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth, began in European and Middle Eastern Christendom in the 3rd Century. These early celebrations, feasts, or "Masses" were not standardized or widely held. It is thought that the early Christians did not widely celebrate the birth of Jesus. This is most likely true since the primary focus was on His life, crucifixion, and particularly His resurrection (Easter).

There certainly were some early celebrations. Early writings including a "feast calendar" written in 243AD indicate that there were some celebrations in the third century and perhaps in the second century. Christmas celebrations did not gain widespread prominence however until the Middle Ages or starting from around 400AD.

These celebrations began and occurred in the areas where Christianity started and spread, the areas around the Mediterranean, including the Middle East, North Africa, southern Europe.

Christmas day, December 25, is not necessarily the actual date of Christ's birth. The true date may not be known because we lack enough information to pinpoint it precisely. (Beware that there are many who claim to have calculated the actual date and are most likely no more accurate than December 25.) Other dates including December 25 were used for this feast.

December 25 was settled on by the early church for reasons that are not absolutely clear (but there are some logical reasons for that date). There were pagan celebrations on and around December 25th. There were pagan holidays year round. Some believe that the 25th was chosen for Christmas because it was the date when the Winter Solstice occurred. This date was widely celebrated as the birth date of the Persian sun god Mithras, who was widely worshipped in the Roman Empire, particularly among soldiers. The Emperor Constantine was among those who worshiped Mithras. When the church became flooded with pagan converts, a huge problem arose. The converted pagans did not want to give up the Winter Solstice festival as it was a time of much celebrating. The church basically followed the old saying "If you can't beat them, join them" and decreed that December 25 should not be celebrated as the birth date of the sun god, but rather as the birth date of the Son of God. Christmas is a pagan holiday and the fact that virtually all of the popular customs observed on this date are of pagan origin confirms that fact.

No one can be absolutely certain of the exact day of Christ's birth. An early winter date is as reasonable a guess as any and December 25th has been the frontrunner for eighteen centuries.

Actually it is possible to approximately determine when Jesus' birth was. First of all the Gospel of Matthew that Jesus' birth occurred before the death of Herod the Great (Matthew 2:15), which occurred in the spring of 4 BC (or BCE) so Jesus's birth most likely occurred in 5 BCE. secondly the Gospel of Luke records that Zachariah, John the Baptist's father, was serving in the Temple as a priest of the Division of Abijah, which was the 8th of 24 priestly divisions. This service would have ended around May 20th 6 BC. This would have resulted in a likely birth of John the Baptist around the end of February 5 BC, and Jesus birth would have likely occurred near the end of August or the first week of September 5 BC. In any case Jesus was not born on Dec. 25.