

**12/28/25**

**Series:** Glimpses of God at Christmas

**Title:** He is Near

**Scripture:** Matthew 1:20-25

**Speaker:** Ian Bonthron



**God, where are you? God are you \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Matthew 1:20-25 ESV**

20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_ - **God is intimately involved in His creation.**

**He is distinct from and transcendent above His creation, but creation is dependent on God, and God is always involved in and near His creation—particularly to people and especially to His people.**

\_\_\_\_\_ - **Denies the existence of God. All there is, is the material world.**



**6 Miracles Materialist Must believe**

1. Everything from Nothing
  2. Order from Chaos
  3. Life from Non-Life
  4. Personal from Non-Personal
  5. Reason from Non-reason
  6. Morality from Matter
- Frank Turek

God went from His \_\_\_\_\_ realm to our material realm, so we can know our material realm isn't all there is.

**Matthew 1:23 ESV**

23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

\_\_\_\_\_ - everything, the whole universe, is God or is part of God



**Isaiah 55:8-9 ESV**

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

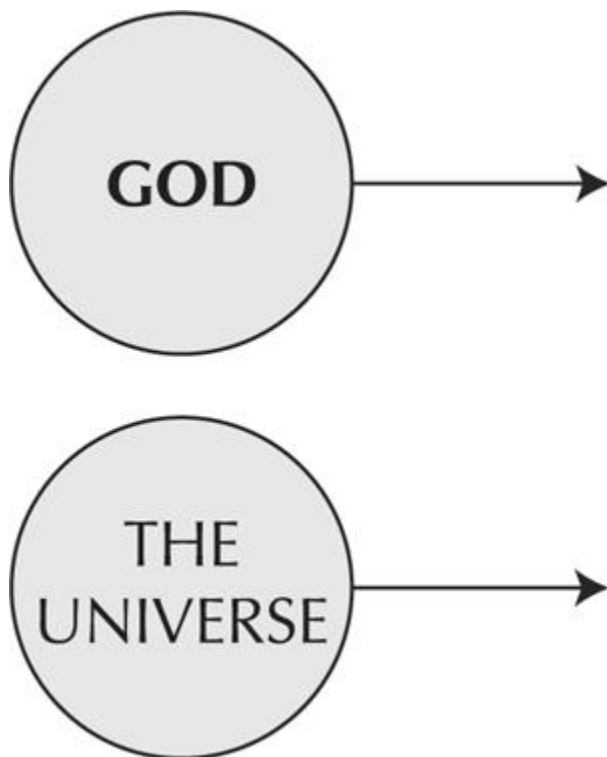


**God is not us, and He is \_\_\_\_\_ than us.**

**Matthew 1:23 ESV**

23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

\_\_\_\_\_ - God and matter, good and evil—these opposing forces coexist equally in the universe



**God does battle with evil, but He ultimately and thoroughly \_\_\_\_\_ evil.**

**Matthew 1:21 ESV**

21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will **save** his people from their sins.”

**Romans 6:12-14 ESV**

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace

\_\_\_\_\_ - God is the creator and greater, but is not involved in our daily world



**James 4:13-17 ESV**

13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" — 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. 17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

**Jeremiah 23:23-24**

23 "Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God far away? 24 Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord.

**Acts 17:27-28**

27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, 28 for "'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.'

**Haggai 2:5**

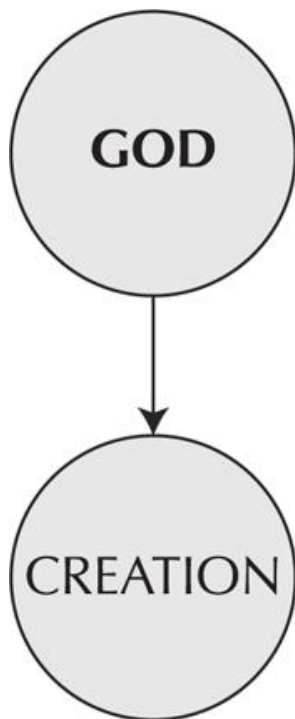
5 according to the covenant that I made with you when you came out of Egypt. My Spirit remains in your midst. Fear not.

God is not \_\_\_\_\_ from us. He is with us and saves all of us who believe - He is \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 1:21; 23b ESV**

21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will **save** his people from their sins.” ...“and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, **God with us**).

God is not \_\_\_\_\_ from us. He is with us and saves all of us who believe - He is \_\_\_\_\_



God came at \_\_\_\_\_ to go to the tree, to show us He's \_\_\_\_\_ to you and me.

*We are never alone, because Jesus our high priest is always with us. Because He took on human weakness and was tempted as we are (but without sin), He understands and sympathizes with our weaknesses. This means He's not disgusted when we struggle, but rather meets us with mercy that is form-fit for each circumstance. So, when we are weak, we can run to Him with confidence. He'll give us what we need. — Paul David Tripp Everyday Gospel: A Daily Devotional Connecting Scripture to All of Life*