# THE GREATEST GIFT PT. 2

## "God is With Us"

**Matthew 1:18–23**, Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."<sup>22</sup> So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and <u>they shall call His name Immanuel</u>," which is translated, "God with us."

#### 1. GOD BECAME LIKE US.

-Philippians 2: 5-11 (NLT), You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.<sup>6</sup> Though he was God he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.<sup>7</sup> Instead, he gave up his divine privileges he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,<sup>11</sup> and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

-John 1:1, 14, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 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.

-Matthew 16: 13-16 (NLT) When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "<u>Who do people say that the Son of Man is</u>?" <sup>14</sup> "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."<sup>15</sup> Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?"<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "<u>You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God</u>."

-Jesus one person to where humanity and deity co-existed. One person who was all God and all man.

-Born of a virgin. Sin was passed through the seed of the father.

**1 Peter 1:23** (NKJV) having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

#### 2. LIKE US-TO REDEEM US.

-Redeem (define) to purchase back. To rescue, to recover, to deliver from.

-Genesis 1: 26 (NLT) Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. <u>They will reign over</u> the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

-Genesis 3: 7 (NLT) At that moment their eyes were opened, and <u>they suddenly</u> <u>felt shame at their nakedness</u>. So, they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

-Hebrews 2:14 (NLT) Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.

-Romans 5: 17, For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

### 3. LIKE US-TO FOREVER BE IN US.

-**John 14: 16-18**, And I will pray the Father, and <u>He will give you another Helper</u>, <u>that He may abide with you forever</u>— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, <u>for He dwells with you and will be in you</u>. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

-John 16: 7, Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.