

# Carols for the King: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

(*Isaiah 7:1-14; Various Texts*)

## The Setting (v. 1-2)

- Ahaz is king of Judah (Southern Kingdom)
  - From the line of David
  - c. 735 BC
- Aram & Israel come to make war against Judah
- Ahaz & the Israelites fear for the safety of Jerusalem (v. 2b)

## The Message (v. 3-9)

- Isaiah & his son go to meet Ahaz at the Washer's Field (v. 3)
  - Shear-Jashub: "A remnant will return"
  - Washer's Field: city water system
- The Lord assures Ahaz that his enemies will fail
  - As long as he trusts in the Lord (v. 9b)

## The Sign (v. 10-14)

- The Lord tells Ahaz to ask for a sign of His faithfulness to His promise to David (2 Sam. 7:12-13)
- Ahaz feigns piety and refuses (v. 11-12)
- God scolds Ahaz and gives him a double-edged sign
  - Immanuel: "God [is] with us"

## Immanuel (v. 14-17)

- A virgin will have a son: 2 fulfillments
- "This young woman": perhaps Isaiah's 2<sup>nd</sup> son (see Isa. 8)
  - This child will act as a reminder that God is with us
  - Immediate: 12-13 years later (v. 15-16)
  - Result: Aram & Israel will be destroyed (c. 722 BC)
    - But at the hands of Assyria, who will subject Judah
  - However, during the years that followed, especially when the Israelites were in exile in Babylon, they looked back on God's promise to David about an everlasting king
- "A virgin": A miracle
  - This child will be God with us
  - 700+ years later
  - Result: God becomes man (John 1:14)
- One meaning: God will keep His promise to David (Matt. 1:23)
  - A King will come to sit on the throne forever
  - And His name is Jesus!

***So What?***

- Jesus is God's gift of hope
- He is our constant reminder that God is with us

**Meditation Verse:** *Matthew 1:23*

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.