

# The Immanuel Factor

**Big Idea: Only one person can save us from our sins, ourselves, and our mortal enemy. Jesus, the very seed of God born of a virgin, forever changed the way we relate to God – He is the Immanuel Factor!**

*She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which translated means, “God with us.”*  
Matthew 1:21-23

Current celebrity news may disturb us but it shouldn't surprise us – mankind has a problem. We are basically self-centered, otherwise known as “sinful”. Fame, wealth, and all that comes with it will never satisfy. We are designed to be in relationship with God and we can't get there on our own. Our sin and his holiness are incompatible. But *God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life* (John 3:16). When we couldn't get to God's level He stooped down to us, sending Someone fully human yet fully God, uncontaminated by sin so He could rightfully redeem us. We're talking about the Immanuel factor, God with us, saving us.

**Jesus** (Joshua *Jehovah is salvation*) **is saving us from...**

## 1. Sin

*I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!* Romans 7 23-25a

Because we were born into slavery to sin, we can't save ourselves. Children of slaves are also slaves (Romans 6:16). We needed someone who was fully human and yet uncontaminated by sin, like the first Adam, who could contest Satan, the god of this world, for our freedom. Jesus, the second Adam, did just that (Romans 5, 1 Corinthians 15).

## 2. Self

*Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin.* Romans 6:6

The source of sin is self-orientation. We miss the mark (the definition of sin) because we are designed to live for God, not for ourselves. Filling that God-shaped void in our life with selfish pursuits only leaves us feeling more empty. But when God is with us, our orientation changes. As we become more aware of Him, we start to look and act like Him. That stagnation of selfishness is replaced with a lifeflow of giving to God and to others.

## 3. Satan

*For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God.* Romans 8:15-16

*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 8:38,39

The power of our former slave master is broken forever. We are no longer subject to him. In fact, he is now subject to us because of the Immanuel factor – God is with us!