

IMMANUEL AGENDA: GOD'S HEART TO BE WITH US

Waiting on God for the Messiah in the temple - and responding Faithfully

Waiting: to allow time to go by especially while staying in one place until someone comes, or until something that you are expecting happens. A person is prepared to take action but must wait until an action or arrival external to one's control has taken place.

On God: God the Creator, Righteous, Holy, Just, Deliverer, All-Powerful, Almighty, Everlasting, Sacrificially Loving, Gracious God of the Universe and King of Heaven and Earth — God who always has been, who is and who is to come ...

For the Messiah: Promised Deliverer. He came to usher in the Kingdom of God.
His coming would change everything!

In the temple: a place for faithful worshipers where God and mankind come together.
A Holy and sacred place where God is served, honored and loved above all else.

Faithfully: Responding to God and His promises with sincere and steady allegiance and affection.
Loyal and constant adoration to God. SEEKING HIS FACE AND HIS HEART!

Immanuel: GOD WITH US - O Come let us adore Him faithfully

Then: Luke 2:21-38

Now: Immanuel! Christ has Come! Salvation is now! God is with us!

Faithfully Waiting with God Now:

John 14: 18-23

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and manifest myself to him. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him."

Romans 8:18-26

"Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. 19 For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. 20 Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, 21 the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. 22 For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. 24 We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. 25 But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) 26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness."

Acts 1:8

"As he was about to ascend and depart the disciples (and us) ask, "Lord, when will you restore the kingdom??? he said, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses ..."

2 Corinthians 5:14, 17-21

Christ's love compels us. 17 Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

Matthew 28:18-20

"All authority has been given to me - go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey all I have commanded youand surely I WILL BE WITH YOU TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE."

Faithfully Reflect on God's Word:

What characterizes those who genuinely seek Jesus?

What do they seem to do as soon as they encounter him? Does this characterize you?

How do the examples of Simeon and Anna help you as you think about living your life, and finishing your life, faithfully WITH GOD?

Worship God for His heart to be with us!

O COME LET US ADORE HIM ... CHRIST OUR LORD!