

More than a Change of Address
Isaiah 7:14 with Matthew 1:18-25

It seems that the One who made us in His image is a person of _____ and _____. This is what the 1st Christians recognized about God—the way you know what He is doing is by seeing what He _____ before and then noticing when it happens _____, usually in a greater, more impactful happening. The early Christians often observed something happening, notice some past event or Scripture text like it and say, “_____ is _____!”

Matthew tells us about the virgin birth of Jesus and says, “All this took place to _____ what the Lord had said through the prophet.” Regardless of the _____ fulfillment of the prophecy, Christians saw the _____, and when Jesus was born in the way He was born—to an actual virgin—they said, “Aha, this is that!”

On the surface, the most stunning, dramatic part of the story is the idea that a _____ gave birth to a son, and of course, it is stunning and dramatic. But the most _____, life-changing element in the connection between the Isaiah prophecy and the birth of Jesus is the name: _____, God with us.

This “with-us-ness” of Jesus is much more than a change of address. In Col. 2:12-14 Paul emphasized 3 ways in which we are with Jesus and He with us. We were _____ with Him, _____ with Him, and _____ with Him. Here is the real glory of Immanuel. Not that God walked on earth 2000 years ago and ascended 33 yrs. later. It is that when you choose faith in Jesus as your Savior and Lord somehow, _____, you die with Him to an old way of life, with Him you are raised from death and now with Him you have a new life in which your sins are _____ and your indebtedness to God is marked “____!” Jesus jumped the chasm of time and eternity to be _____, making possible through faith in Him our death to the old life and resurrection to new life with a clean slate making possible a continuing _____ with _____.

Now, all that is left is to _____ His offer.