

Series: Christmas 2018

Sermon: Jesus “God with Us”—the Defeater of the Enemy of His People

Bible Passage: Isaiah 7:10-14 cf. Matthew 1:22-23

I. Observations from Isaiah 7:14

1. Judah was facing a military threat from Ephraim [Israel] and Syria [734-32 BC] (Isa 7:2 cf. 2 Kings 15:37)

- a. There was a threat of complete destruction of Judah
- b. There was a threat for the line of “house of David”
- c. The courage of the people was severely damaged

2. Ahaz, king of Judah, and his people were terrified at the coalition of enemies (Isa7:2)

3. They were planning to get help from Assyria—a wrong source for help [a wrong decision] (Isa 7:17-18)

4. God sends Isaiah to Ahaz to offer help (Isa 7:3-9)

5. But Ahaz turned down God’s offer of help but was getting ready to accept help from Assyria (Isa 7:10-13)

6. Consequently, Ahaz and his unbelieving people would be defeated (Isa 7:10-13)

7. But, God’s promise of his protection of Judah was going to be confirmed by the birth of a son who need to be named “Immanuel” (Isa 7:14)

8. Continuation of this child “Immanuel,” the Ideal child is promised (Isa 8:23-9:7)

9. Matthew quotes Isaiah 7:14 in Matt 1:23 because Herod the Great and his Son, Archelaus, were posing a threat to the Seed of David (Matt 2:1-23)—typology

- a. God tells Joseph that “He will be with him at this crisis and challenging time”
- b. Unlike Ahaz, Joseph believed God’s offer/promise
- c. They were able to be instruments in God’s most important plan in the history of the world—If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all (Isa 7:9)

Take Away

Face your threats by accepting God’s offer in “Immanuel” and avoid seeking help in wrong sources