

## ***Sermon Title:* "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"**

**Date:** December 3, 2023 - Isaiah 7:10-14; Matthew 1:18-25

Central Idea: The ultimate fulfillment of the prophecy found in Isaiah 7:14 comes in our Lord Jesus Christ, who is "God with us."

Introduction: This hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," helps root us in the Old Testament in a way that is richly biblical and centered on Jesus.

The answer that God gives to man's battles is astounding: He confronts our battles with *His Baby*. Isaiah 7:14 foresaw a coming birth that would promise God alone can and will save His people. The only ultimate security is not in man's battles but in God's promised Baby. While Syrians and Israelites marched 2,700 years ago and while today's enemies march, God's response is the same. The ultimate outcome will not be with man's marching but with God's Messiah.

God's cradled Christ is more than a sufficient answer to man's crying crisis. While others stand with the fear of Ahaz in the face of man's battles, let us stand with Isaiah looking toward God's Baby, the Christ, Emmanuel, God with us.

### I. Rooted in the Old Testament.

The hymn alludes to the following passages:

- Emmanuel: Isaiah 7:14
- Branch of Jesus: Isaiah 11:1
- Dayspring: Luke 1:78
- Key of David: Revelation 3:7-8
- Lord: Lord is the name of God in the Old Testament that would be applied to Jesus in the New Testament.

### II. Rooted in Church History

### III. Rooted in the Return of Christ

Conclusion: So, Christian, this Christmas, sing this great hymn of the church, this great Christmas carol, with a recognition that, as you do, you stand in three distinct periods—in the Old Testament looking forward to Christ's first coming, in the New Testament church rejoicing in the first coming of Christ, and with the expectancy of those who are waiting for the final advent of Christ as the end of all things. O Come, O Come, Lord Jesus. Come soon!

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20b)