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THE PROMISE OF GOD WITH US

THE PROMISE GIVEN

¹⁴All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us'). Isaiah 7:14 NLT

- King Ahaz and Judah faced enemies on every side. The people were anxious; the future seemed bleak. And in the midst of fear, God sends a word—not of judgment first, but of reassurance.
- This promise was God's declaration to His people: *"I am not distant. I am not absent. I am with you."*

THE PROMISE FULLFILLED

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

¹⁸ This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰ As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: ²³ "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus. Matthew 1:18-25 NLT

- The name *Immanuel* expresses the miracle of the Incarnation: Jesus is God with us!
- Christmas fulfills God's promise to be present with His people, not just above us, but with us, walking among us.

THE PROMISE EXPERIENCED: GOD WITH US TODAY

¹ In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He existed in the beginning with God. ³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. ⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. John 1:1-5 NLT

¹⁰ He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹ He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. ¹² But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³ They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. ¹⁴ So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. John 1:10-14 NLT

GOD IS WITH US IN OUR FEARS

- Just as in Isaiah's day and Joseph's day, God knows the fears we carry—financial worries, family struggles, broken relationships, uncertain futures. He is with us.

GOD IS WITH US IN OUR WEAKNESS

- Jesus came not for the strong, but for the weary and burdened.
- When we feel unable, He is able.
- When we feel alone, He is near, He is with us.

GOD IS WITH US IN OUR JOURNEY

- As we navigate the road ahead that seems uncertain, we can be confident He is with us.
- God is with us and working among us.
- Even when our prayers seem unanswered—He is moving.
- God does not need visible evidence to be powerfully present.
- He works in quiet places, ordinary moments, and unexpected ways.
- Jesus promises in Matthew 28:20: *"I am with you always."*