

Are you Lonely or Rejected? Come to Immanuel – God With Us!

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Why did God allow my child to die? Why did I lose my job? Why did my husband leave? Why am I childless? Why do people reject me? Why am I sick? Why did I lose my home? Why, why, why!

These days when you try to witness to or counsel women and men alike, you are usually confronted with a barrage of questions as to why negative things happen to them. These questions come not only from unbelievers but from born again children of God too. The explanations that are given from the word of God is usually not easy for people to receive because their reasoning is that if God is with me, why do bad things happen to me. We know from the scripture that our adversary is the devil. He is said to be roaring around like a wild Lion seeking whom to devour because he has been sent out of heaven because of rebellion.

I often wonder why God still holds any kind of dialogue with Satan. For instance when the children of God gathered as recorded in the book of Job chapter 1, Satan was said to have shown up too. His mission was to accuse Job of not being as faithful or devout as he was, and that he would deny God if anything bad happens to him and his family and possessions. The result of this accusation is that Satan was given permission to torment and afflict Job, who went through a lot of loss and pain but in the end received a double portion of his lost blessings. I would if that would be the story of everyone that is going through any kind of trial.

In the book of Isaiah chapter 7:14 is the prophecy concerning the advent of Christ on this earth. "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. The meaning of that name is given to us in Matthew 1:23 which states, "... and they shall call His name Immanuel which is translated, "God with us"

God is with us! He is with every one of His creation. He has never for once left us. The evidence of His presence is all around us in nature. Even before a man is born again, God is still with him. He is so patient that He waits for us to answer His call to come out of darkness and enter into fellowship with Him. He said "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and dine with him, and he with me' (Rev. 3:20). All things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Are you lonely? What more can anyone ask for? To know that you are surrounded by the hosts

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of heaven at all times, and that you are the apple of God's eye. Many people resort to violence to give expression to the frustration that they feel inside. Some enter into habits that are destructive like alcohol; or drug abuse, sexual perversity and the like. Some women when confronted with loneliness or lost relationships become like the women referred to in the Bible who are busy bodies in other people's matters. They know about everyone in their community and can relay their life stories. As you are reading this, know that God is with you! Can you imagine as the Israelites were being pursued right into the red sea, that He made a way for them to pass through on dry land.

God shows Himself in the relationships that we have. If you have a good husband or wife and friends, know that it is God giving expression to His presence in your life. Every good and perfect gift comes from God. He said in the book of Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" When the Israelites were sent into exile because of their idolatry, even there God was with them because of His unfailing love. He told them in Jeremiah 29:4-6, "Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives to your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that you may be increased there, and not diminished." Psalm 30:5 lets us know that, "His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life.." There is no one who can say to you with boldness, 'I AM', only our Lord Immanuel who is always with us.

Jesus Christ who is Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, is with us always even to the end of the age. There is no end to His government and peace, so you know that no one can take your peace unless you let them through unbelief. Celebrate Jesus in a different way this Christmas and watch wonders happen in your life.

Merry Christmas and also welcome to 2014, your year of great achievements and accomplishment!

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