

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

Sep 2016

**Isaiah**

Holy Living

## Lesson # 6 God is With Us (Immanuel) – A Message of Hope

### INTRODUCTION

Many people think that God created the world - he “wound it up” like a watch and walked away – letting events run their course. What convinces you the most that God is actively with us?

### OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

#### Read Isaiah 7:1-9

*Note: Assyria was growing stronger and threatening the smaller nations whose security depended on a very delicate political balance. Syria and Ephraim (the Northern Kingdom) tried to pressure Judah into an alliance against Assyria, but Ahaz refused to join them.<sup>1</sup> He was already secretly aligned with Assyria. The name of Isaiah’s son (Shear-jashub) means “a remnant shall return”. In Isaiah 7 we not only meet the Immanuel, we are also reminded that our God is Sovereign. He will accomplish all His purposes, for none can stay His hand.<sup>2</sup>*

1. What were King Ahaz’s choices?
2. What did Isaiah say the Lord wanted him to do?
3. Ahaz seems to be trusting in an alliance for protection rather than God. How does God feel about that?  
Vv 7-9
4. Why was (is) a political (power) solution easier than trusting God? **Pr 16:3-4; 2 Cor 4:18; Heb 11:1;6**
5. How could Ahaz find inner peace in the midst of turmoil? How do we?

#### Read Isaiah 7:10-16

*Note: The term “virgin” meant young woman of marriageable age, assumed to be a virgin. This “sign” had an immediate significance to Ahaz and the people of Judah. A woman who was then a virgin would get married, conceive, and bear a son whose name would be “Immanuel.” This son would be a reminder that God was with His people and would care for them. It is likely that this virgin was Isaiah’s second wife, his first wife having died after Shear-jashub was born; and that Isaiah’s second son was named both “Immanuel” and “Maher-shalal-hash-baz”.*

*Orthodox Jewish boys become “sons of the Law” at the age of twelve. This special son was a reminder that Syria and Ephraim would be out of the picture within the next twelve years. Isaiah delivered this prophecy in 734 B.C. In 732 B.C., Assyria defeated Syria; and in 722 B.C., Assyria invaded the Northern Kingdom. The prophecy was fulfilled.<sup>3</sup>*

6. Ahaz was known as an evil king. Why did he not want to test the Lord? Vs 12.
7. Why is the virgin birth such a significant doctrine of Christianity? Vs. 13 **Lk 1:31-35**

#### Read Isaiah 7:17-25

*Note: Israelites often hid in crevices and caves when under attack. Hair on their heads and face was important to them so captors often shaved them as a form of humiliation. 2 Sam 10:4-5*

8. What did Isaiah predict would happen to King Ahaz and Judah? Why?
9. How could King Ahaz have shown his trust in God?
10. How can military leaders of today express their trust in God?

### APPLICATION

What crises are you facing that need Jesus to be your “Immanuel”? Can you really trust Him? How?

Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *Be comforted*. An Old Testament study. (29, 32). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.

<sup>2</sup> Richards, L., & Richards, L. O. (1987). *The teacher’s commentary* (p. 371). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). Be comforted. An Old Testament study. (29, 32). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.