

# Sermon of the Week: Do you remember the baby Jesus?

**A**s we gather to celebrate the holiday season over the next few weeks, we will enjoy time with family and friends.

Laughter will fill many dining rooms as the decorations shine in the background. This setting brings me to reflect upon family and what the season is really all about. I encourage you to ask yourself the question: "Do I really understand who the baby Jesus was



and still is?"  
The first thought and

question about Mary's baby came in Matthew chapter one. It was here that Joseph, her soon-to-be husband, thought about Mary being with child before they came together. Then, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him.

How great it is when God shows up in the midst of our confusion and speaks a word of comfort and direction. In verse 21 the angel declared that his name shall be called Jesus.

That is the name that is highly exalted above every name. (Phil. 2:9-11) The name of Jesus is the name that was used to defeat the devil. (Luke 10:17 and Mark 16:17) The name of Jesus is the only saving name for the New Testament believer. (Matt. 1:21; John 3:16-18; Luke 24:45-49; Acts 4:12) Then, in verse 23 the angel makes a declaration that still confounds many: He shall be called

"Emmanuel," which is being interpreted, God with us. This was first spoken by the prophet Isaiah. Christ was literally the Old Testament God manifested in flesh. (1 Tim. 3:16; II Cor. 5:19; John 1:1 and 14) He was the image of the Old Testament invisible God. (John 4:24; Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:15-17) He was and is the one lord and his name is Jesus. (Deut. 6:4; Zech. 14:9; John 20:24-28; Acts 9:1-5; Eph. 4:5) This time of year, I

enjoy the family gatherings, meals and gifts as much as the next person. I encourage you to sing and celebrate the baby Jesus but as you do please remember what was first spoken by the angel about this baby. His name is Jesus. He shall save his people from their sins and he is God with us.  
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