

# The Good news of My Emanuel

December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012

[www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com)

30<sup>th</sup> edition

[Sermon](#) :: [Life impacting scripture](#) :: [Testimony](#) :: [Outreach](#) :: [Praise and Prayer request](#) :: [Reviews](#)

**Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah Chapter 7 verse 14 KJV)**

## 'Tis the season

As we enter December we begin to look forward to the celebration that marks the birth of our savior and the blessed only hope of all man kind: Jesus the Christ. Some have said correctly that December 25<sup>th</sup> is not the day that Jesus was born but the purpose of the celebration is not the day but the event. On December 25<sup>th</sup> we give thanks to our Lord God in heaven for leaving His throne in glory and descending to be born of the virgin Mary, to live a perfect life fulfilling the law, and dying a sinners death to make atonement as the last and greatest sacrifice for sins! We should truly rejoice everyday for the gift of salvation but let us never forget Christmas is a day to remember the greatest gift we have or could ever receive: freedom and forgiveness for our sins. The cost of this gift? Free to us, paid in full by the blood of Jesus on the cross at Calvary. As December begins spend everyday thinking about the wonderful gift and never forget: **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (Matthew Chapter 20 verse 28 KJV)** – you are free in Christ! Your fine has been paid! The Judge has pardoned your sins! Rejoice and sin of His praises!



## Recommit

We all find our selves hurting and lost at some point in our life and by the grace and mercy of the Lord we are given redemption of sins as we are “born again” by the blood of Jesus Christ when we accept Him as Lord and savior. Its hard when after you know you've been born again and that you have accepted Christ when you find yourself fighting a struggle to understand how you've gotten back to a defeated feeling. Never forget the devil is a roaring lion looking for a soul to devour and he will relentlessly peruse this goal. You must remember once you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and washed by the blood of Christ you do need to be born again... you need to repent and return to Christ!  
[Http://www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html)

## 30 day challenge

I pray you would visit [www.myemanuel.com/prayer](http://www.myemanuel.com/prayer) and seek out God's purpose for not only your life but your marriage, your children, and all those you love! If you are hurting and desperately seeking the Hope... I can show you where to find Him! His name is Jesus Christ, you may not know Him but He has known you since creation! Will you rejoice eternally when you know Him?

**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke Chapter 2 verse 11-14 KJV)**

Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!

# Weekly Sermon

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

## CHRISTmas

What is Christmas to you? Is Christmas a time to give presents, reflect on the year, spend time with family, give thanks? All of the above? A time to remember the birth of Jesus? I think if you were honest with yourself Christmas is probably all of those things but every year that passes it becomes just another corporate sponsored holiday and it is sad to see children more excited about santa than Christ. It is sad to see children more excited about reindeer and a sleigh than the manger and the cross. As December begins and we celebrate the day marking the birth of our savior I really want you to spend everyday between this moment and December 25<sup>th</sup> thinking about the true meaning of Christmas.

What is the true meaning of “CHRISTmas”? Even know the mainstream has tried desperately to remove the word Christ from Christmas there is no celebration without Him. Jesus is the purpose, the reason, the desire, the first and greatest gift given to commemorate this season. Christ is truly the meaning of Christmas but its deeper than that, can you understand what God by leaving His throne to be born of the virgin Mary? He gave us a fully paid for, fully free to accept, fully fulfilling, eternal, wonderful, joyful gift: salvation! He gave us a way back to Him! At the birth of Christ God came in to the world to do what no one else could: fulfill His perfect law! **For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. (Romans Chapter 8 verse 2 KJV)** – what is the meaning of Christmas? A joyful celebration in which we praise, honor, glorify, and thank our Father in heaven for His beautiful gift.

Can you imagine what the very first Christmas was like? God's word tells us exactly what it was, it was a joyful celebration full of song, praise, and worship! **And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke Chapter 2 verse 10-14 KJV)** – close your eyes and begin to imagine the fright and joy of these men, imagine hearing all of the angels of heaven joyfully singing the praises and worship of the Most High, imagine the immense joy knowing that Hope was come and that satan was defeated! What an amazing first Christmas it must have been as the shepherds worshiped the baby Jesus and I can only begin to imagine the sight of it!

What is Christmas? Its it presents? Its it a tree? Is it stories? Is it food and family? In my heart and I pray that the Lord would reveal to you Christmas is about God, His gift to men, the sending of the Redeemer, and His great love for all of His children. This CHRISTmas I pray the Lord would deliver to you the Good News in a way that you will rejoice, praise Him, and thank Him for the unbelievable present that He has given all those who ask! Salvation by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!

## Life impacting scripture

Timothy Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

**38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39 KJV**

In this life we can all agree we go through struggles. We have pain in our body's, pain in our hearts, and pain in our spirits. Things go wrong, stuff doesn't go according to plan, and things fall apart. Some times you just want to give up. You might have problems with your bills, you might have problems with family or your spouse. You might be spreading the gospel and trying to do what God wants but you feel alone and lost. You could fall to temptations and feel the lowest you've ever been. Or you could be so blessed and successful that you feel yourself drifting away from God. You might work too much, or you might get distracted. You could have prayers that don't get answered, you might feel that your falling apart. You might be broken inside. Sometimes we don't feel God near, or think he doesn't love us. Hell itself might be tormenting you, you could be pushed on every side, with the weight of things trying to crush you. You could be in the fire and hardest trials in your life.

You won't always understand, and you won't always be able to comprehend.

**But know GOD is still GOD!**

Know that our God is all knowing and all powerful. He does not faint he does not grow weary and he cannot be defeated. God knows what is best even though it may hurt. Have faith, be strong in the Lord's strength, lean not upon your own understanding, and commit your ways to the Lord and be established. God is our ONLY refuge, our ONLY strength, our ONLY protector. God feels your pain and hears the groaning and uttering of your spirit. When God knows you have reached your limit, and the purpose of your trials are over God will say "Enough". And it will all pass away. Learn to trust God in the good and the bad. The highs and the lows. Faith no matter what! **God Still Reigns.**

**Come to him, and rest in his presence.**

**Matthew 11:28 KJV**

**28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

**Job 19:25 KJV**

**25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:**

We will get to hold Jesus when we enter heaven, hug the almighty, and hear him say: "Well done my son", "Well done my daughter". " I love you, enter in my rest"

**Live for the lost. Love until it hurts.**

No matter what the cost because He loved us first.

**Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**

## Testimony

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemaneul.com>

*Do you have a testimony that you would like to share with our readers? We would love to hear what the Lord has done in your life that has provided you with a testimony to glorify his name! Please contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemaneul.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemaneul.com) if you would like to share your testimony! You may remain totally anonymous!*

### **“I feel like your talking to me”**

Recently I was blessed to share the Gospel with a sister and as I did it was so powerful to know of God's plan and wonderful guidance. Interestingly as many great conversations do we didn't start talking about the Gospel or even herself, we actually were talking about her brother who is living in a sinful situation and as we began to talk about the situation and God's purpose for her brother and really God's purpose for everyone the conversation quickly turned to her and myself. Its interesting that the conviction the Holy Spirit brings on a brother or sister and to watch as she said to me “I feel like God is giving you a message for me”, I was talking about this sister's brother... I was talking about his situation... I was talking about God's plan for him... about God's love and God's desires and quickly I could tell that she was ready and willing to hear the truth!

To share the Gospel effectively we need only look at Jesus and how He shared the truth, its hard to go up to someone and say “Hi, I'm Daniel, can I tell you about Jesus”? While straight to the point and knowing this message and the Good News is critical and everyone needs to hear it, to be effective we need to remember His example: **There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. (John Chapter 4 verse 7 KJV)** – to share the Gospel we must learn to take causal conversation and let the Lord work through us to drive home the truth: Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE and NO MAN comes to the Father but through Him! Next time you find yourself talking to someone you know is not a Christian try it, have the conversation and pray that God would turn it to the Good News and that He would bless you with an opportunity to share the truth!

**Please visit [www.myemaneul.com](http://www.myemaneul.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**

## Outreach

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

### Recommit

When people find themselves walking in darkness and sin and yet they have already given their life to Christ they tend to think they need to be “saved” again and I pray that as you read this message that you would understand: once you are redeemed by the blood of Christ He has paid for the sins you have, are, and are going to commit. Once you are truly saved you are saved eternally, Christ did not do a half work on the cross! Christ has fully redeemed those who trust in Him and sends the comforter to every child that trust in Him as Lord and savior! When the Holy Spirit comes you are already “born again” and you are then sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of judgment. So what can a born again Christian who is walking again the bondage of sin do? Repent! Recommit your life to Christ! Confess your sins! Understand that willful sin separates us from God, and that we must not grieve the Holy Spirit. While we are only born again once it is possible that we may fall many times before we learn we must lean not on our own understanding but His.

With this fact in mind I pray you would visit [www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/recommit.html) to again find the peace and rest that you once knew, Jesus hasn't changed... He has never left your side... all you must do is repent and faithfully seek His guidance and show your love by being as obedient to Him as fleshly possible.

**Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**

## Prayer and praise request!

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

*Are you in need of prayer? Do you know someone who is? Please e-mail us today at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) with any prayer needs and feel free to also post them on our Facebook page for our prayer warriors at <http://www.facebook.com/myemanuelprayerteam>.*

**Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not to temptation but deliver us from evil, for the glory and the power of Your heavenly kingdom. Father we pray that you would lift up these prayer request and allow all who seek answers in prayer to receive You, for truly we know Father if we ask we shall receive. We ask that you would allow all those who read these words and prayers to pray for their brothers and sisters in Christ. Father we glorify and praise your name for these praise request and know that just as you answer our prayers we glorify your name even in the dark places! Praise you Father! In Jesus Christ beautiful name we pray, Amen.**

Please be in continued prayer for the nation of Israel and the Jews around the world as God prepares to make His son Jesus known to His people. Father may you keep them safe and may you roar forth from Zion to remind the world the land of their inheritance is not to be divided or shared. Protect them and make Immanuel known to them! Amen.

Please be in prayer for the family of brother Danny as he went home to be with the Lord, Father may you touch them and give them a peace and strength knowing he is truly home!

Please be in continued prayer for brother Derek as he struggles in continued pain that God would make him new, Father may you remind this brother that your healing hand is unlike anything we can understand.

Please be in prayer for the tortured, murdered, and persecuted church around the world. Father may you look on your people and send the comforter in a powerful way to give them strength to endure the situations they find themselves in.

Please be in prayer for the United States, Father may you be merciful with this nation, Lord please raise up Godly, Christ honoring leaders who will dedicate and trust in your words and wisdom.

Please be in prayer for the body of Christ as satan wars against the saints that God would bless us with strength and wisdom to endure and continue to make Christ known all around the world.

Please be in prayer for our sister in Christ Tammy that God would continue to give her strength and do a full healing in her body that would surpass all understanding.

Please be in prayer for sister Marlin that God would touch her and allow her to make the final decision to give her life to Christ. Father may you touch this family and use this sister to share the true good news with them all.

Please be in prayer for all those who are poor and without that the Lord would touch them, that He would provide for them, and that they would truly know that they are never alone.

Please be in prayer for Timothy and I as satan does everything with-in his power to destroy us that God would continue to deliver us and use us for His kingdom and purpose.

Please be in prayer for all those who are on the verge of giving in to the peace and freedom only found in Christ that God would speedily save them and reveal Himself to them. Father we know you are not willing that any should perish, may you give them what they need Father for you alone are worthy and capable!

Please be in prayer that the world will truly remember that Christmas is about the most precious gift after given!

**Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**

## Reviews and newly found ministries

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

*Are you a leader or member of a God fearing ministry that puts the Lord Jesus Christ first in all they do? Do you have a website or blog that you post Christian messages or provide any type of ministry? Contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) to request that we add you to our bi-weekly newsletter.*

### **Worship and praise music:**

Saved the day – Phillips, Craig & Dean

Not Guilty – Mandisa

He Reigns - Newsboys

In the hands of God - Newsboys

Fall Apart - Josh Wilson

### **Books:**

Tortured for Christ by Richard Wurmbbrand ([www.torturedforchrist.com](http://www.torturedforchrist.com)) – Wow, this powerful book was a free gift from the Voice of Martyrs ministry and all I can say is just the first two chapters have opened my eyes in a way to the pain and suffering of the body of Christ in a way I never thought possible.

### **Ministries:**

Ed Newton – I recently had the pleasure of seeing Ed Newton at a youth conference in the city I live. God is using this brother in mighty ways and it is amazing to know that God can use anyone for His purpose and can raise anyone out of any circumstances to bring glory to His name! (<http://www.ednewton.org>)

Have any requests for you ministry to be given a shout out? Let us know and give us some brief details about it! [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com)

**Please visit [www.myemanuel.com](http://www.myemanuel.com) for more information about our ministry and how to help!**