

# The Good news of My Emanuel

December 30<sup>th</sup> 2012

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

32<sup>nd</sup> edition

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

It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. (Lamentations Chapter 3 verse 22-23 KJV)

## 2013

So 2012 has come and gone, another CHRISTmas here and gone, another beautiful season in which we celebrate and rejoice in the birth of the way, the truth, and the life, the only way back to the Father: Jesus. You've gotten your gifts, you've ate great food, you've seen your family, everything was perfect... and yet you are reading these words and you feel hollow inside... no matter what you do, what you try to fill yourself with, all your gifts, all the food, all the "good" times... nothing can make you feel whole inside. This time of year millions of American's make resolutions about what they are going to do or not going to do in the next year, they make promises, "I'm going to live a new life" they think and yet scripture makes the promise:

**Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians Chapter 5 verse 17 KJV)** – you don't need new years to start your life over again... Jesus Christ makes all things new! God's mercy is new every day! It is by His mercy that we are not consumed! If you are tired of feeling empty and tired of feeling alone I can lead you to the truth... let Him open your eyes, fill your heart, and set you free! [Http://www.myemanuel.com/iamready.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/iamready.html)



## 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?

**If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (John Chapter 8 verse 36 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>

**Happy “new” year!**

In just over 48 hours America and the western world will throw a huge party to celebrate the end of one year and the begging of the next, people will partake in “fun” as they dampen their spirits drinking, partying, carrying on, and “bringing in the new year” and as I look back on many years wasted in this worldly ritual it provides the perfect opportunity to talk about a true “new begging” and I pray this very moment you will stop fighting against the truth, surrender to Christ and know what I say here is His truth, the “new” year doesn't make anything new, January 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 is the begging of just another day, the new day doesn't make anything new, in fact there is nothing that can refresh you, there is nothing that can take away the pain and mistakes you've made, there is absolutely nothing you can do to “start over”... **UNLESS** you begin to understand it isn't something **YOU** can “do” yet something the God of creation **HAS** done... **Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians Chapter 5 verse 17 KJV)** – new years resolutions are fine and making commitments to live better have their place but nothing can or will change in your heart and life without Jesus... Jesus Christ is the **ONLY** catalyst for true and life impacting change. “I don't need a crutch in my life Daniel, I can change all by myself”... my brother, my sister, please understand that you could change everything in your life, you could have the perfect body, the exploding bank account, a dream job, the fastest car on the streets, the best clothes, the best friends, you could have the perfect everything... and you are still so much poorer than the poorest man or woman in Christ!

“Things” don't make you rich... nothing you could ever do can fill the place that God has built with-in you for Himself to dwell. God has made your body as a living temple for the Holy Spirit and has created you with the intention of having fellowship with you. God left His throne in heaven, He left His kingdom, His throne, His glory and came down to this earth to be born in a lowly manger to be born of a poor virgin woman, revealing Himself to “unclean” shepherds so that you would know and trust that He is God alone, He is God for all men, He is humble and His love is beyond comprehension: **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John Chapter 3 verse 16 KJV)** – O' lost brother and lost sister do you not know? Can you not understand? What is it for a man or a woman to gain everything they have ever dreamed about... for every resolution you make to come to pass and to still be blind, naked, and on your way to an eternal hell?? The scripture warns us: **For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? (Mark Chapter 8 verse 36 KJV)** – being “poor” by worldly standards but rich in Christ makes even the most desperately poor Christian richer than even the richest men in the world, in Christ I am rich, I am loved, I am guaranteed victory even after death, eternally I am redeemed and set free, and you? Without Christ you are on your way to an eternal hell and separation from God. “I'm a good person Daniel” hell is full of men and women who thought they could justify themselves with God, you are not a “good” person, I am not a “good” person, God is good alone. God is perfect, He demands perfection, we cannot give Him what He demands... He gives Himself what He demands... **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (John Chapter 14 verse 6 KJV).**

“I shouldn't make resolutions then?” The truth is this, resolutions don't require a “new” year to begin, changing your life to try and live healthier, to lose weight, to stop smoking, to stop being so angry, to find a new job, whatever it may be is fine and it has its place, I am glad when my brothers and sisters see a need to change something in their lives but the greatest resolution should be “to grow closer to Christ Jesus and serve Him more”... in Christ I have victory, in Christ I have assured victory and eternal redemption. “Jesus can't help me stop smoking Daniel” He did me... for 10 years I was a slave to addiction and was helpless, I couldn't get free... Jesus Christ has freed me from bondage and reminds me I am not a slave of the evil and sinful world. **But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. (1 Corinthians Chapter 15 verse 57-58 KJV)** – here is the truth, there is victory in the Lord Jesus, why do you keep pretending your not weak? The strongest men of this world fall and fail daily... in Christ Jesus I am made strong, my sin is forgiven, my mistakes are corrected, the loving

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

hand of my God is laid in my life and He gives me strength to do the things that "can't be done". As you start to think about the "new" year please understand you don't have to wait until 2013 to start, you don't need "one last night" if God is speaking to your heart and I pray that He is, the time is now! Life is but a vapor, here today and gone tomorrow... don't put this off, is Jesus Christ your personal Lord and savior?

As you finish reading this message I pray you would understand the extreme importance of what I am professing to you today: without Jesus you will spend eternity in hell, in a hell fire separated in torture and pain away from God. Jesus Christ is the ONLY way to the Father and a personal relationship of love allowing the Lord to be Lord and Savior of your life is what is required to be free. Freedom from this world is loving obedience to Christ! Today I ask that you would search your heart and truly read this profession from the mouth of the Lord Jesus, accept it, trust it, test it, know it: **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. (John Chapter 14 verse 21 KJV)** – as we close this message here are some truths to enter in to the "new" year with:

- Jesus Christ is the ONLY way back to the Father and to eternal life (John 14:6)
- Jesus makes ALL things new, and in Jesus through faith and trust you can and will have victory over the demons in your life (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Jesus Christ died so that ALL your sins can be forgiven (1 John 1:7)
- Jesus Christ is God in the flesh (John 1:1)
- Jesus Christ is the Messiah (John 3:16)
- Those who love Christ obey Christ (John 14:21)
- There will be hardship and pain in this life, we must endure in Christ (Luke 9:23)
- Those who deny Christ will be denied BY Christ (Matthew 10:33)
- Your faith will shine through your life (James 2:18)
- God loves you and desperately seeks a relationship with you (1 John 3:1)

Brother... if you die, right now, standing before a Holy perfect God who demands perfection... are you perfected in Christ? Or will He say to you: **And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Matthew Chapter 7 verse 23 KJV)** – sister are you ready? If this very day your life is demanded of you... are you ready? Be made new in Christ NOW: **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Romans Chapter 10 verse 9 KJV).**

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

## Life impacting scripture

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

**2 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;**

**2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.**

**3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour (1 Timothy 2:1-3 KJV)**

In today's world it seems darkness is winning. It seems all unrighteousness goes unpunished and people try to make God into a fool. So much sin and evil going on, so much of a force against us we think "what can I possibly do?"

As a Christian, as a faithful believer you are vital and so are your efforts. You may not see the fruits but your prayer can change the world! We have many people in power over us and we need to pray for them, that God lead them, that he teach them and help them be righteous. Instead of us complaining about our president we can pray for him! His cabinet and congress need our prayer too! Instead of bashing our brothers and sisters who foolishly disobey God we can pray that he humble them and bring them back to the faith. We have Sunday school teachers, deacons, preachers, assistants, friends and family, bosses and managers. We have governors, police officers, firemen, doctors, council members, and any one else in power or a teaching position. Pray for them! Your prayer matters and don't ever let the devil convince you otherwise! You do your part and God will do his! HE IS FAITHFUL. All the mistakes we make as humans can be helped, changed, and even corrected if we let God lead us. He knows better than us, and he sees all the future holds. God is stronger than any man or woman, even if these people don't believe in God we can still pray for them!

As soldiers in this eternal army we have a battle plan, a mission, a fight. A life to live and power from on high. Use your talents for Gods glory and his kingdom. Prayer doesn't have to be for 8 hours, you can pray every time you get a chance, a spare moment, before you start your morning or before you go to bed. During your lunch break, or on the way home. Use your time wisely and remember no effort is to small. God hears ALL prayers.

You can be a prayer warrior! Be faithful and pray for all those you know.

And no matter what this world seems, the battle has already been written and the war won, but will you be a faithful soldier or a slothful servant?

**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.myemanuel.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@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) if you would like to share your testimony! You may remain totally anonymous!*

## Deny Yourself

Over the past few days I have been at a youth conference with youth from our church and throughout the weekend the message was “all this for love” and as we went through each day God planted a seed that He watered as I got home from this conference: **And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. (Luke Chapter 9 verse 23 KJV)** – to deny yourself is to prevent or refuse the very sinful things that give you comfort or temporary happiness for the eternal peace and eternal joy of Christ. Throughout my life my struggle has never really left where it started and to deny myself is physically painful as the devil relentlessly tries to tempt me and destroy me. To deny myself is to feel the pain of doing so but do deny myself is to surrender to the command of Christ and to share in the pain and suffering He endured because of me and for me! “Your crazy Daniel”, your right! I am crazy, crazy for Christ and desperately seeking to live in obedience regardless of the pain and suffering of doing so... why? Do I do it just to say I do it? Or do I do it out of love and obedience to the Lord? Remember the scripture reminds us: **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. (John Chapter 14 verse 21 KJV)** – wait! Your saying I have to deny myself and be unhappy in the flesh? God just wants me to be happy! My brother and sister Christ wants you to be lovingly obedient! Christ commands us to deny our flesh, to deny our sinful desires, and to endure the pain and hardship set before us by daily EVERYDAY picking up our cross and following Him!

I am not always “happy” as last night I promise you I was very unhappy but I am ALWAYS joyful knowing that my God's mercies are new! His love for me and His grace give me strength! Everyday I wake up is a day closer to being with Him forever! Everyday I suffer is a day that Christ has perfected me in this fight and has given me strength to endure! My testimony for you this week is IT WILL BE HARD! It is guaranteed that as you fight against your flesh and your desires that you will have a hard time doing so... we are fallen creatures! “I don't have a hard time Daniel”, there was a good friend of mine who once was preaching and said “if the devil is not in your face you need to look to your left and right because he is probably walking by your side”. The devil is a roaring lion looking for a life and a soul to destroy! He hates you... he wants to see you suffer and it is only by God's grace and mercy that we can overcome the enemy and the temptation of our flesh. So to you I say ENDURE! PICK UP YOUR CROSS! Christ will walk faithfully with you and give you the strength you need to carry it... but you must ask for that help, you must trust that help, you must endure for if we endure in Christ we shall dwell in His peace and love forever! **Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. (1 John Chapter 4 verse 4 KJV).**

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

## Outreach

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

### **Emanuel Connect**

Over the next few weeks Timothy and I will redevelop the “Emanuel Connect” feature and we pray you would be in prayer over this but also that you would check out [www.myemanuel.com/emanuelconnect](http://www.myemanuel.com/emanuelconnect) over the new few weeks as we begin to update and add to this forum feature. It is our desire and our original design to include a place for brothers and sisters to gather in worship, discussion, and prayer but due to many circumstances it was necessary to shut down the forum. We will again begin to develop this feature and pray you would join us in discussion and encouragement for our brothers and sisters around the world. There is nothing more wonderful than gathering with people from around the world to discuss and share in the joy of Christ!

**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 prayer for the persecuted churches around the world and our brothers and sisters who are tortured and murdered for Christ. Father may you protect, guide, and give these brothers and sisters strength to endure the oppression. May you give them joy and comfort in knowing you are with them always.

Please be in prayer for the youth of the world that God would ignite a fire and receive the body of Christ. Father may you touch your children and raise up God fearing, Christ centered, Christ honoring shepherds to protect, feed, and teach them your truth.

Please be in prayer for Israel that God would continue to protect the Jews and would begin to powerfully reveal the truth of Jesus Christ to them. Father may you make your Son known to your people and may they gaze on the One they have pierced knowing Jesus is Messiah and the ONLY way back to you.

Please be in prayer for America that God would cut down ungodly leaders and raise up Godly Christ honoring leaders to lead us out of this darkness and hatred for the truth. Father may you reign down what is necessary on this nation for it to turn back to you, may you ignite a fire in the body of Christ that consumes this nation.

Please be in prayer for all those who are on the verge of giving their life to the way, the truth, and the life. Father may you reveal Jesus and the truth to those who seek Him, may you allow the Gospel to be relentlessly shared with people around the world.

Please be in prayer for the pastors, preachers, evangelist, teachers, and all those who lead the body of Christ that God would convict hearts and remove man made doctrine and replace it with the truth of God's word. Father may you pour out your rebuke on those you love and may they accept it and honor you in everything they say, do, and teach.

Please be in prayer for the lost and dying world. God may you be quick and merciful and your righteous judgment of this world. May you come quickly and free us from the prince of this world the liar who is the devil. May your people continue to experience power and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Please be in prayer for all the lost for truly the time draws near and those not found in Christ will be eternally separated from the Lord. Father may you do what must be done to reveal your Son and the Truth to those who will hear it.

Please be in prayer for Timothy and I that God would continue to bless us, use us, and set us free from the temptation and burdens the devil has sat before us. Father we humbly pray you would continue to be for us for truly if you are with us nothing and no one can stand against us.

In Jesus name we pray – Amen.

**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.*

### **Ministries:**

Phil Waldrep ministries (<http://philwaldrep.org/>) - host of the Connect youth conference and an amazing ministry dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Christ with the lost and dying world.

### **Conferences:**

The Connect Youth Conference (<http://connectconferences.org/2013/>) - just wrapped up the 2012 connect conference and let me just say God was powerfully moving among the youth at this conference. Check them out for 2013 and the amazing power of God is truly on display for all youth and adults who come to see!

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