

# The Good news of My Emanuel

December 31<sup>st</sup> 2011

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

6<sup>th</sup> edition

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

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, 2 as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" 3 "a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" (Mark 1:1-3 NIV)

## Praise the Lord for another great year!

As we get ready to move into a new year we praise the Lord who was, who is, and who forever will be the King of Kings and the master of all! Blessed are we to have a God who loves us so much that He has provided us a way to start anew and to forever be forgiven of our short comings! The Lord Jesus Christ! Son of God, blessed redeemer! Praise be to you God of Gods, Alpha, Omega, for truly the glory is yours! The glory of those who have turned to you during this past year, those you have willingly saved and allowed to call on the blessed name of the perfect lamb!

As we get ready to move into the new year I would hope that if you are reading this that you have truly turned your life over to Jesus Christ and have allowed Him to save your life! Just as we truly start a new year I say to you that God has provided us all a way to start our relationship with Him over again! If you are ready to walk with the Lord in His peace and grace please visit <http://www.myemanuel.com/iamready.html>. Or if you would like to start this year off sharing the grace you already know by your love and personal relationship with the Lord check out "God's Messenger" to share the Great News of the salvation of Jesus Christ at <http://www.myemanuel.com/godsmessenger.html>.

May the Lord bless us greatly and continue to give us peace and bless us throughout this new year! May we worship and glorify His name for His great love and sacrifice He has made! Amen!!



## Sections

The Good news of My Emanuel is split up into several sections to make what you are looking for easy to find! The sections of our newsletter are:

- Weekly sermon (red)
- Weekly life impacting scripture (blue)
- Testimony (green)
- Prayer and praise request (yellow)
- Reviews and newly found ministries (pink)

This color coded section should allow you to gain quick access to any portion of this newsletter, we know that some days you will have time to read all the way through, other days you will want to jump directly to something in the newsletter.

## Get involved!

My Emanuel is growing thanks to the power of the Lord and his blessings! Praise you Heavenly Father! If you are interested in doing more for the Lord and providing for your brothers and sisters through the many tools the Lord has provided us with please check out <http://www.myemanuel.com/getinvolved.html>. Also remember to "like" us on Facebook to see our post on your wall as we post them! Also remember to check us out on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/myemanuel>. We pray the Lord will open your heart to serve him even more and you would work with us! Amen.

13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John Chapter 4 verse 13 NIV)

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# Weekly Sermon

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

## **Grab your sword, grab your armor, to battle we go!**

Picture this. Your going to war in medieval times. You are going into a battle every day, this war has been raging your entire life. Some days some of your fellow soldiers, your comrades, your friends, are injured by stray arrows or darts. Some are wounded greatly, even killed in sneak attacks that no one saw coming. So now you wear your armor every minute of every day, even when you sleep. You carry your shield with you literally everywhere even when you go to meals. Now you even take your sword with you when...you take care of business.

Or a lighter scenario, you play either football, baseball, hockey or any other rough sport. One day at practice you forget to wear your cup. Then the worst happens, WHACK!, you get hit 'down there'. A stray tackle, a fist in a dog pile, a stray fastball, or a slap shot. No matter which you will never forget your cup again! Better even, imagine your forget your helmet, somehow..., its been a long day. How ever coach decides to teach you a lesson, he lets you practice without it!! Its your turn for a tackling drill! Your scared and a little timid, but your proud...or just stupid...either way you don't want to back down! You can do this, even without your equipment! You go in for the tackle and you come out with.... A concussion.

I say that to say this, if you wouldn't play a sport without your equipment or go to war without the ability to fight back and defend yourself, why would you go into the real world unprepared??

## **The Holy Bible isn't just a display on the mantle!!**

Some say: But its just a guideline..... I don't really need it....

### **Ephesians 6:10-17 NIV**

#### *The Armor of God*

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

If it wasn't for the Bible, and our faith in it where would we be? We would be as children that know nothing!!!

Others say: But...the Bible was written by men....

### **2 Timothy 3:15-17 NIV**

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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## Life impacting scripture

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

**45 David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. (1 Samuel Chapter 17 verse 45 NIV)**

It is often hard to believe the power of the Lord because his power is above the understanding of anyone of us! The thought that the Lord created the earth and the heavens just by speaking them into existence seems impossible, but again God is not a man. God created man. God created all things. This weeks life impacting scripture is to remind everyone that regardless of our fear or the situation that the Lord will always prevail!

The story of David and Goliath is perhaps one of the best known Bible stories but people tend to forget the significance of this story. First David a child, a shepherd, someone who had never been to war versus Goliath, a veteran warrior who was huge, who was so frightening that the entire army of the Lord was to afraid to fight him even as he hurled insults against not only them but God. The Lord sent David into a very quick battle with Goliath in which the veteran warrior of an opposing army that was challenging the Lord was quickly killed and the opposing army was totally defeated.

Why is this story important? First, the Lord is not bound by our understanding, His power is unbeatable and his wisdom and knowledge eternal and always correct. Second, the Lord uses those who are the lowest, the “weakest”, the youngest, the most foolish to humble those who are kings, those who are strong, and those who are old and wise. The Lord is not burdened by our understanding and He is not limited to what we think He can or cannot do! The Lord is the master of the universe and He has power over all things!

Know that when you are praying that you pray to a God who hears your prayers! A God that loves you so much he sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for you! A God that is in need of absolutely nothing! A God that is jealous and wants a relationship with the soul He caused to dwell in us! Know that your prayers are known before you pray them! That they will be answered as you pray them! That the Lord is the truth, He is the light, He is holy, He is perfect and that if your prayer is for something you are truly in need of the Lord will answer the prayer always in time!

Always remember and never forget the Lord can do all things and that if the Lord is truly with someone it doesn't matter who or what stands against them, the Lord prevails! Praise you mighty Father!

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## 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!*

The Lord humbles those who glorify themselves! Just two days ago a co-worker of mine told me, "Don't touch me man I'm sick! You'll get sick". What I was thinking and what I said were totally different things, I was thinking to myself how the Lord blesses me and that I rarely get sick, what I said was "Na I don't get sick".

The simple fact is that regardless of the good intentions of your thoughts, as I hate to say because my dad always used to say, "Actions speak louder than words". Because I glorified myself through my action of touching my sick co-worker and then worse yet I said "Na I don't get sick" i'm here to tell you that just a few hours later... I started to get very sick!! How I am reminded of this as I sat searching here tonight for some testimony to share! I share this testimony to remind everyone what I have to continue to remind myself of, **fear the Lord! Love the Lord! Praise the Lord! Glorify the Lord!** Friends if the Lord has blessed you all you need to say in response to things like this is "I'm sorry your sick, the Lord has blessed me today because I am not may he bless you to be well!!"

Praise His mighty name in all you do! Never forget that He is Lord, He is God, and He is in control. He will humble those who through actions and through words try and exalt themselves! Praise you Lord for always reminding me that you are in charge and your will, will be done!!

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## Prayer and praise request!

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

*The “reviews” and “newly found ministries” sections have been combined in order to provide a new section to share prayer request from brothers and sisters, readers of The Good News of My Emanuel as well as to post praise request to glorify our Heavenly Father and give him praise for answering our prayers! Please contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) with a prayer or praise request as well as on the Emanuel Connect feature at <http://www.myemanuel.com/emanuelconnect/index.php> under “Prayer request” or “Praise request”.*

**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.**

Tonight we pray for all those around the world who are celebrating a new year, how horrible to think that something so predictable as the new year is celebrated so much around the world by the masses. Pray that we are forgiven for celebrating the “new year” with alcohol, sex, drugs, partying and celebrating when most of the world overlooks the most important day in the history of life, the birth of his precious Son Jesus Christ! Forgive us Lord! Be with those who are celebrating and may you remind them of how much more joyous a relationship with your Son Jesus Christ is! A “new start” better than a million “new years”!

We continue to pray for all those prayer request as we move into a new year and hope that the Lord will bless all those who are reading this newsletter! May the Lord be with you and bless you in abundance! May you praise His holy name and shout Glory to the Lord on High!

Praise the Lord that almost every prayer request this week is also a praise request! Remember if you are need of prayer please contact us at [dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com](mailto:dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com) with your request, you may remain totally anonymous.

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## 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.*

**Come to the Well – Casting Crowns:** My wife bought me this CD for Christ-mas and I have to say WOW! This CD has some powerful music on it and is a great buy! Praise the Lord for allowing His words to be brought to life through music and I have to say that this entire CD is good. My favorite song on this CD may be “The City on the Hill” and I think applies to so many situations! Check it out on the Crowns website <https://castingcrowns.com/node/657>.

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