

Three Relationships with God

Matthew 1.23

God With Us

- The name given to Jesus was full of significance.
 - Isaiah 7.14
- Note what surrounds Matthew 1.23:
 - Jesus identified as Christ/Messiah — 1.17-18
 - Jesus conceived by the Holy Spirit — 1.18,20
 - Prophecy of Jesus' role in this world — 1.21
- The birth of Jesus was the entry of God in human flesh.
 - Jesus was, and is, Divine — Acts 20.28; Hebrews 1.8

Matthew 1.23

God With Us

- In the person of Jesus, deity entered human flesh and walked on the earth.
 - Hebrews 10.5
- God the Son came to us (humanity) to save us:
 - He came in a body so that He could die — Hebrews 2.9
 - He experienced the things we experience — Heb. 2.10
 - His death would strip Satan of his power — Heb. 2.14
 - Tempted yet sinless, He is able to help us — Heb. 2.18

1 John 4.12

God In Us

- In a more specific way, John reveals God has a special relationship with some people.
 - Echoes Jesus' words in John 14.23-24
- That God abides in us expresses relationship.
 - God does not literally live in us — Psalm 115.3; Acts 2.33
 - God dwells in us when we love each other — 1 Jn. 4.12
 - The Father dwells in us when we confess Jesus — 1 Jn. 4.15
 - God dwells in us through faith — Ephesians 3.17
 - God abiding in us by faith brings peace — Romans 5.1-2

Romans 8.31

God For Us

- For those people who have submitted to the Gospel, God is on their side!
 - In the face of difficulty, what a comfort! — Romans 8.35ff
- What God being for me looks like:
 - I am justified by God from sin — Romans 8.33
 - I have the ultimate hope of Heaven — Romans 8.28
 - I walk according to the Spirit — Romans 8.4
 - I have freedom — Romans 8.1-2