

Jesus is God, Jesus is Human: Matt 1:23

Sunday, December 25, 2022
Covenant Church
Pastor Zack Phillips

Matt 1:23

**“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”
which means, “God is with us.”**

A. Introduction

How did people believe that Jesus was *God*? Let’s marvel, that the familiar might become strange...

B. Jesus is God

1. Jewish monotheism

Num 23:19a God is not a human being...

Deut 6:4 (NIV) Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

In Rev 19:10 and Rev 22:8-9, John falls down to worship the angel showing him the vision. The angel emphatically says, “You must not do that!... Worship God!”

2. How awesome Jesus must have been

Athanasius, On the Incarnation

3. Jesus is God

Matt 1:23 “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”
which means, “God is with us.”

John 14:9b Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

Col 1:15a He is the image of the invisible God...

Heb 1:3 He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being...

C. Jesus is Human

1. Struggling with Jesus being human—and divine

“Jesus provoked an intellectual crisis in just about everybody. Their response was not, ‘Wow, I’ve just seen the Son of God,’ but rather, ‘Who is this?’” —William Willimon

Arianism, adoptionism, homoeans or heteroousians, modalism, Apollinarianism, monophysitism, Nestorianism

Council of Constantinople in 381: "God is one ousia (Being/Nature) in three hypostases (persons)."

2. Struggling with Jesus being *this* human

"The one who holds the world in being lay in a manger; he was simultaneously speechless infant and the Word. The heavens cannot contain him; a woman carried him in her bosom. She was ruling our ruler, suckling our bread" —Augustine