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***RCC Phoenix – 12.11.22 – Immanuel***

The Bible is not a single book. It is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of writings, historical documents, books & letters.

The books of the Bible are NOT in chronological order.

*Example 1:* Our Old Testament begins with the book of Genesis and the book of Job is the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** book of the Bible. However, most historians and Biblical scholars believe Job is the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** book in the Bible.

*Example 2:* The book of Nehemiah is the **\_\_\_\_\_\_** book of the Bible but is written during the same timeframe as the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** book of the Old Testament **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (450 – 400 BC).

**Malachi 4:1-6 NLT**

“The Lord of Heaven’s Armies says, “The day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace. On that day the arrogant and the wicked will be burned up like straw. They will be consumed—roots, branches, and all. “But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. On the day when I act, you will tread upon the wicked as if they were dust under your feet,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. “Remember to obey the Law of Moses, my servant—all the decrees and regulations that I gave him on Mount Sinai for all Israel. “Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. His preaching will turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers. Otherwise, I will come and strike the land with a curse.”

The time between the final word of Malachi and the Angel appearing to Mary is over **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** years!

How arrogant of us in modern times to say things like:

* If I could see a miracle I would believe.
* If I could just have a leader.
* If we could just have a few simple rules.
* If we could have a more detailed list of laws that could apply to almost every situation.
* If I could see someone raised from the dead.

**Luke 16:19-31 NLT**

“Jesus said, “There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury. At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man’s table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores. “Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the heavenly banquet. The rich man also died and was buried, and he went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side. “The rich man shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.’ “But Abraham said to him, ‘Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish. And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.’ “Then the rich man said, ‘Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father’s home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don’t end up in this place of torment.’ “But Abraham said, ‘Moses and the prophets have warned them. Your brothers can read what they wrote.’ “The rich man replied, ‘No, Father Abraham! But if someone is sent to them from the dead, then they will repent of their sins and turn to God.’ “But Abraham said, ‘If they won’t listen to Moses and the prophets, they won’t be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’”

God didn’t exhaust His patience, He exhausted human **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

According to WorldHistory.us:

*The ancient Jews began the education of their children at the age of five to seven. “There is a late addendum to the fifth book of the Sayings of the Fathers, which sets out the ages of man: ‘At five years old, Scripture; at ten years, Mishnah; at thirteen, the commandments; at fifteen, Talmud…’ ”*

*The first thing a Jewish child was taught, after he was old enough to speak, were two important texts from Scripture, “As for actual instruction, as soon as he could speak the child was taught to memorize and to say the two texts: ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord,’ and, ‘Moses commanded us a law, even the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob.’ ”*

**Psalms 1:1-2 NLT**

“Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the *law* of the Lord, meditating on it day and night.'

**Psalms 119:11 NLT**

“I have hidden your *word* in my heart, that I might not sin against you.”

The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** was with them.

**Matthew 1:18-23 NLT**

“This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet: “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

The most famous verse in the Bible (John 3:16) starts with… “For God so loved the world that He **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** …”

Giving Formula from a Financial Coach:

* Something they **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* Something they **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* Something to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* Something to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Every person wants **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Every person needs **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Every believer wears the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of God

Every person has been given **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to consume.

Every one of those gifts was encapsulated in one perfect gift… the perfect gift of Jesus.

Adam Clarke Biblical Commentary

*In what sense, then, is Christ GOD WITH US? Jesus is called Immanuel, or God with us, in his incarnation. - God united to our nature - God with man - God in man. - God with us, by his continual protection. - God with us, by the influences of his Holy Spirit - in the holy sacrament - in the preaching of his word - in private prayer. And God with us, through every action of our life, that we begin, continue, and end in his name. He is God with us, to comfort, enlighten, protect, and defend us in every time of temptation and trial, in the hour of death, in the day of judgment; and God with us, and in us, and we with and in him, to all eternity.*