



# *Come, Thou long-expected Jesus*

## *Day 3: Stanza 3*

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

## *Scripture Reference*

'I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord Almighty.'

– *Haggai 2:7*



Well, we've officially arrived in our song at the moment the Old Testament believers could only hope for – the arrival of our long-awaited Messiah, Jesus Christ. Oh, isn't it such a privilege as a New Testament believer to be able to celebrate the arrival of our Immanuel each Advent season? The Israelites lived their lives in eager expectation, in joyous hope of their coming Messiah. No, they weren't perfect at it. In fact, they messed it up quite a bit, didn't they? Even in Haggai 2, they were struggling to rebuild the temple – impatient and discouraged. But aren't we often like the Israelites? In our own eager expectation, don't we often mess up our own waiting process? But God is always teaching something in the waiting. We have much to learn from the periods where God tells us simply to wait.

*Have you ever been impatient or discouraged in the waiting? Describe your feelings and your responses. How did you feel and react once the waiting was over? What did you learn?*

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Jesus, fully human and fully God. As our song puts it - Jesus, born a child, but also a king. He was a baby born like no other to a virgin mother with the destiny of saving the world. He would grow up learning to read and write, learning carpentry, and being disciplined by His earthly parents just like every other child. Yet, He lived a blameless life and would one day save each of us.

*What does it mean to you that Jesus was fully God? What does it mean to you that He was fully human? Which truth is easier for you to grasp? How does it impact your relationship with Jesus?*

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The Lord promised that His glory would fill the temple. And, oh how his temple was filled with awesome glory! Jesus filled God's earth with His glory and power. Born to a virgin mother, He was a miracle from the start. Throughout His life, He continually amazed us with His glory, performing miracles and showing us the path to His Father. Even in His resurrection, Jesus overcame death. The Lord, in Haggai, speaks of shaking all the nations: "the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land." We must never underestimate the reach of God. He is sovereign over all things. He can, and does, control all things here on earth and in heaven. Jesus' birth, reign on earth, and resurrection impacts all things.

*How do you see God's glory in His creation, in the world around you? How do you see God's glory in your own life? As a believer, how are you glorifying God today with your own life?*

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At his birth, Jesus was to be given the name Immanuel – God with us (Matthew 1:23). Through His arrival, Jesus made His dwelling among us. Though He died, rose, and now dwells with His Father, He left us the Holy Spirit to dwell with us until He returns. By giving us the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in each of us, we are each a temple – His temple (1 Corinthians 6:19). He's building a Church unlike any other on this earth, filling each of us with His glory. Jesus is the God "who is" over all things and with you in all things (Revelations 1:8).

*Do you feel Immanuel with you today? What does it mean to you that you are temple? How does your life display God's glory? How are you relying on the Holy Spirit in your life?*

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