

## Isaiah 7:10-16

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you<sup>£</sup> a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and<sup>£</sup> will call him Immanuel.<sup>£</sup> <sup>15</sup>He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. <sup>16</sup>But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

## **Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

- <sup>1</sup> Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel,  
you who lead Joseph like a flock;  
you who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth
- <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.  
Awaken your might;  
come and save us.
- <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God;  
make your face shine upon us,  
that we may be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> O LORD God Almighty,  
how long will your anger smolder  
against the prayers of your people?
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
- <sup>6</sup> You have made us a source of contention to our neighbors,  
and our enemies mock us.
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God Almighty;  
make your face shine upon us,  
that we may be saved.
- 
- <sup>17</sup> Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand,  
the son of man you have raised up for yourself.
- <sup>18</sup> Then we will not turn away from you;  
revive us, and we will call on your name.
- <sup>19</sup> Restore us, O LORD God Almighty;  
make your face shine upon us,  
that we may be saved.

## **Romans 1:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—<sup>2</sup>the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup>regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup>and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup>Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. <sup>6</sup>And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup>But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.