

### Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **Isaiah** chapter 7 verses 10-14, which can be found on page 817 in the **old testament** of your pew bible...*

<sup>10</sup>Once again the Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, ask the Lord your God for a sign, from lowest Sheol or from highest heaven. But Ahaz said, No, I will not put the Lord to the test by asking for a sign. Then the answer came: Listen, house of David. Are you not content to wear out men's patience? Must you also wear out the patience of my God? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: A young woman is with child, and she will bear a son, and will call him Immanuel.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from **Matthew** chapter 1 verses 18-25, which can be found on page 3 in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

<sup>18</sup>This is the story of the birth of the Messiah. Mary his mother was betrothed to Joseph; before their marriage she found that she was with child by the Holy Spirit. Being a man of principle, and at the same time wanting to save her from exposure, Joseph desired to have the marriage contract set aside quietly. He had resolved on this, when an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. 'Joseph son of David,' said the angel, 'do not be afraid to take Mary home with you as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. She will bear a son; and you shall give him the name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this happened in order to fulfil what the Lord declared through the prophet: 'The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and he shall be called Emmanuel', a name which means 'God is with us'.

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Branden Moffat

Rising from sleep Joseph did as the angel had directed him; he took Mary home to be his wife, but had no intercourse with her until her son was born. And he named the child Jesus.

*May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.*