

November 28, 2021
Theology of the Carols
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel was written by monks in the 9th century. It was part of a collection of hymns which were sung in the days leading up to Christmas. O Come, O Come Emmanuel was sung on Christmas Eve. The original version contained 7 stanzas. Each stanza draws our attention to the coming Messiah, specifically through the names given to the coming Messiah from the Old Testament. As we study the theology behind the carol, we will notice how Emmanuel provides hope. Emmanuel is the hope the world needs.

Outline:

1. Emmanuel provides hope for salvation. (Isaiah 7:10-14)
2. Emmanuel provides hope for healing. (Malachi 4:2)
3. Emmanuel provides hope for life. (Isaiah 11:1)
4. Emmanuel provides hope for peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Additional Verses:

Matthew 1:21-23
Luke 1:78
1 Corinthians 15:55-57
Ephesians 2:14

To read all 7 stanzas, go to:

https://hymnary.org/text/o_come_o_come_emmanuel_and_ransom

Study Questions:

1. What does the name Emmanuel reveal about God? How does this name point back to creation?
2. How does the name Emmanuel provide us hope?
3. How can Emmanuel bring healing to you today?
4. Compare the version we sing with the version from the online hymn book. Which verse would you add to sing? What does that verse reveal to you about Emmanuel? From that stanza fill in the blank. Emmanuel provides hope for _____.
5. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?