

Introduction To Immanuel Bible Studies

After completing my book, Immanuel: A Practicum, I found myself continuing to search the Scriptures for more on Immanuel topics. The articles that follow are the result of that search. At this time, I am planning a more polished format of these studies to serve as a companion volume to Immanuel: A Practicum.

Most people read the Bible from front to back (canonically) by book. Some find it interesting to read it chronologically from the earliest writing to the most recent. Others might read it according to literary style, like reading all the historical books and then all the wisdom books, all the prophetic books and then the epistles.

A systematic study is yet another approach to reading the Bible. In systematics, one would read according to a particular word, phrase, author, or topic. I look at systematic Bible study this way: If you have a bag of marbles of different colors and you want to study each color, it makes great sense to separate them according to color and then study each group.

This method of Scripture study might be familiar to you. You will find it in reference materials such as Nave's Topical Bible, Thompson's Chain Reference Study Bible, Dake's Annotated Bible or any good concordance. These articles are intended to be finished studies.

Early in my Bible discovery, I started coloring the names of God in my Bible so that I could easily find them and know them. I continued to find topics of interest until now I use thirty seven different colors for topics of interest. Several Bibles later, I can follow topics in my Bible easily. I can see favorite topics of different authors, variations of word usage, intensity of topic by book, along with different meanings of the same words.

In these Bible studies, I take a systematic approach to words or topics related to the Immanuel Approach. With a few exceptions of reorganization, I have not redone what is presented in the book. These articles are either additions to that material or new topics unmentioned in the book.

All of the entries are by verse rather than by complete sentences or paragraphs. You should have your Bible handy to provide the context of the verse when necessary.

The words and phrases are taken out of the New King James Version. For the most part, I have not gone into the original languages, but am using words as they are translated into English.

People have reported to me that they are enjoying these articles as devotionals, printing out one page at a time to read at each sitting. Others are using them as raw material for further personal study or for preparation for teaching on these topics. My hope is that they will provide "tracks to run on" for further study into the Biblical basis for the Immanuel Approach.

I continue to add to this material as I read my Bible. I invite you to let me know of the things I haven't discovered yet at calvaryway@aol.com.