

Name: _____

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Author: _____

Date: _____

Original Language: _____



1. Who is Emmanuel? _____

2. Who or what was Israel captive to? _____

3. When was the first time Jesus appeared? _____

4. What is the ransom price Jesus pays? _____

5. When will Jesus appear again? _____

6. How does Jesus come to us now? _____

7. Which season of the Church Year is this hymn written for? _____

Answer Sheet

Author: Unknown

Date: 12th Century

Original Language: Latin

- 1) The Lord Jesus Christ. Emmanuel (Immanuel) means “God with us.” See Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:23.
- 2) Here the text refers not to physical captivity of the nation, but to their spiritual captivity. Apart from Christ, the nation of Israel and all people remain enslaved to sin, death and the devil. See John 8:34 and Romans 6:17-23. Even when delivered from their enemies, the nation of Israel often remained in spiritual exile – separated from their true homeland of God’s eternal kingdom.
- 3) Jesus first appeared at His birth. In His Nativity, God stepped down from Heaven to live and die for our salvation. See Luke 2:8-20.
- 4) A ransom is paid to release someone who is held captive. Jesus offers Himself up as the ransom price for the whole world’s sins. He sheds His blood at the cross to free us from bondage to sin, death, and the devil. See 1 Timothy 2:5-6.
- 5) Jesus will come again with power on the last day to judge the living and the dead. Christians can look forward to His coming with joy! He comes to take us home to Heaven. See Matthew 25:31-56.
- 6) Jesus comes to us right now through His Word and Sacraments. He comes to us in the Church through these Means of Grace to forgive our sins and strengthen our faith.
- 7) Advent. This hymn leads us to consider Christ’s coming and look forward to the celebration of His birth at Christmas.

*Questions focus on the first stanza and the theme of the hymn.

This hymn is easy for young children to learn and sing. Each stanza reminds them and us that Jesus comes to us and for us. He comes to save us from sin, death, and the Devil and grant us a place in Heaven. Jesus frees us from our enemies and cheers us on our way as we live in this fallen world waiting for His promise to come again and draw us to Himself.

The text of this ancient hymn seems to be a paraphrase of the seven “O Antiphons.” These “O Antiphons” – which originated several centuries before the hymn – were sung at Vespers on the seven last days of the season of Advent.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. [Refrain]

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. [Refrain]

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. [Refrain]

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. [Refrain]

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. [Refrain]

Name: _____

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here,

Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Name: _____

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanza 5)

O come, Thou Key of David, come,

And open wide our heav'nly home,

Make safe the way that leads on

high,

And close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Name: _____

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanza 7)

O come, Desire of nations, bind

In one the hearts of all mankind;

Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,

And be Thyself our King of Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Name: _____

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanza 7)

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated ten times.