

Humility— Our Example

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Matthew 8:20 *The foxes have holes, and the*
Matthew 11:29 *Take my yoke upon you*
Matthew 19:21 *Come and follow me*
John 14:6 *The way, the truth, and the life*
1 Corinthians 1:28 *He chose the lowly things*
Philippians 2:3 *Do nothing of selfish ambition*
1 Peter 5:5 *Be clothed with humility for God*

1 In a world that has no interest in the Word of God and no desire to live as Jesus said, we must be sure to focus *our* attention on the only One who can *save us* from the worst fate ever.

2 God is saying *much* by providing His Son with so *little* as He began life on earth.

3 There is no doubt that Jesus is AV John 14:6 “*The way, the truth, and the life,*” so His *example* of *humility* is the *way* to enter His kingdom—“*No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*”

4 We must not miss the message of His humble beginning on earth. Jesus was born in very ordinary surroundings with no comforts we enjoy.

5 *Jesus* was *God* which enabled Him to be our *Savior*. It all began in a very lowly manner that did not attract any attention or interest from the world.

6 The world tries to obtain *better* circumstances; *improved* surroundings; or a *higher* position of employment, but thirty-three years after that humble beginning in Bethlehem, the lowly life, the modest surroundings, and the submissive

attitude of Jesus to His Father, did not change—*That* is *our* example to emulate.

7 A man wanted to follow Jesus and was told AV Matthew 8:20 “*The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.*”

8 The Creator of the universe and the Savior of believers chose a humble beginning to set the example of a true Christian life.

9 The apostle said NIV 1 Corinthians 1:26 “*Brothers, think of what you were when you were called [by God]—*

10 28 *He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him.*”

11 Jesus selected twelve individuals who had no wealth, no college degree, and no position of importance.

12 God looks at the *heart*—the world looks at *titles*. They were not selected because of their education or financial standing—they had *neither*.

13 Jesus called them to be part of His ministry because of their *humility*—which made them *teachable*—*that* was the main qualification!

14 The King of kings and the Savior of all the faithful began life in humble surroundings—*that* is the message God wanted to send.

15 His Son would show the *way*, give the *truth*, and live a *life* that would be the example for all people. The apostle said AV 1 Corinthians 11:1 “*Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*”

16 If we *commit* our life to God, we can be *used* by God to witness for Him—at our work; with friends, around the home, and at school—we can shine a spiritual light for others to see and emulate.

17 We shine the light of Jesus by being the peacemaker.

18 In a world filled with pride, arrogance, and selfies, the most important birth ever is recorded—

19 Luke 2:1 AV “*And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.*

20 *And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)*...

21 *To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.*

22 *And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*”

23 *Swaddling clothes, coarse cloth, feed trough for a bed, and a stable for a room* all speak of true humility. That was the *example* Jesus gave the world—and is why He said,

24 AV Matthew 11:29 “*Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*”

25 We can all *learn* from His example—but we have to *choose* to *follow* it first—asking for a spirit of humility and a willingness to get *rid of* pride and *accept* humility.

26 Jesus said AV Matthew 19:21 “*Come and follow me,*” but *following* Him means being *humble* like Him!

27 Not many would believe a news report that the greatest King would be born in a stable with a feeding-box for a bed.

28 The greatest King ever would begin life in a barn—and He never allowed it to change Him for over three decades!

29 Jews of that day knew about the predicted Messiah—it was a Bible *promise* that they believed would be fulfilled. They *knew* He would

come from the line of David, and that He would reign over Israel from Jerusalem.

30 They all knew NKJV Micah 5:2 “*But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.*”

31 The Messiah had to be born in Bethlehem—it would be a *humble* start and lowly birth that would occur at the right *time* and in the right *place*. The words of the prophet Micah would be fulfilled to the letter!

32 Joseph and Mary would visit during the reign of Caesar Augustus—who knew little of Scripture.

33 The Jews were against Roman occupation because they brought idols and put images of Caesar on coins, flags, and shields.

34 Augustus ended wars and extended Roman boundaries—bringing a time of Roman peace.

35 This resulted in building roads and giving access to any part of the Empire and spreading of the gospel.

36 NKJV Galatians 4:4 “*When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*”

37 Everything was timed for the arrival of the Messiah—including a humble place to stay—which was the divine *plan* and *message* to all who would choose to follow the King.

38 All through Scripture humility is taught as the *only* scriptural attitude—

39 NIV Philippians 2:3 “*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit [pride NCV], but in humility [and lowliness of mind AV] consider others better than yourselves.*”

40 Rome required everyone to register and because of delays, Caesar’s census was not carried out until three years later.

41 It was all God’s plan for Joseph and Mary to be there at that time. AV Luke 2:1 “*And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.*”

42 The journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem was an arduous trip of 90 miles that took them through *Shiloh*, where Hannah asked God for a child 1 Samuel 1:9-11.

43 *Gilgal*, where Hannah’s son, Samuel, became a prophet; *Ramah*, where Rachel wept for her children Jeremiah 31:15; and *Mount Gibon*, where Solomon worshiped God.

44 The journey continued through *Jerusalem*; *Mount Moriah*; and across the plateau of *Zion* on which Jerusalem is built.

45 Mary and Joseph would arrive at *Bethlehem*, the home of Boaz and Ruth 4:9-11, and on NKJV Luke 2:4 “*from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem.*”

46 AV Luke 2:6 “*And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.*”

47 *And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*”

48 Mary and Joseph would have stayed in a room, but the inn was full. The Greek for *inn* is a rough shelter—like a *loft* in a barn.

49 When Christ was born, a *No Vacancy* sign was out front, so they stayed in an animal shelter for days.

50 The Son of God set aside any equality with God—taking the role of a servant.

51 He not only *chose* this humble position, but He AV Philippians 2:8 “*Became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*”

52 Jesus came to earth for *all* people of *all* races, cultures, and nationalities—He came to tell them of God’s Truth and then complete His work of atoning for our sins at Calvary. Every step He took brought Him closer to the cross.

53 That divine *plan* has never changed all these thousands of years. [#128 vs 3] *Where meek souls will, receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in—it was His promise AV John 6:37 “Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*”

54 Jesus visited earth to *do* the Father’s will and *provide* eternal life for all who would believe Him and follow Him.

55 AV Philippians 2:9 “*God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.*”

56 It is a story like no other—a story to be told again and again, because everyone must *begin* with *humility* and *end* with *pride* out of their heart.

57 NKJV 1 Peter 5:5 “*Be clothed with humility*” because *God resists the proud—not* a good thing but gives *grace* to the humble—a *very good* thing—with a free pass to Paradise!



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