

Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Down from His Glory!

Focus Verses: Philippians 2:10-11 - ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Lesson Text: Exodus 33:17-23; Philippians 2:6-11 **Truth About God:** God was incarnate in Jesus Christ. **Truth For My Life:** I will follow Jesus' example of humility.

It may be difficult to define God's glory. <u>King David wrote</u>: "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens" (Psalm 8:1). <u>If</u> we cultivate a hunger to know Him in a way we have never experienced before, He will come to us in a new and extraordinary way. God gave Moses all he could comprehend of the greatness of God's glory (Exodus 33:21-23).

Jesus did not come as the Jews expected He would. They were completely caught off guard because He did not choose to appear with the pomp and circumstance of a mighty king. He chose a humble stable among foul-smelling animals for a birthplace, an animal trough for a bed, and a world that had no room for Him (Luke 2:7). **Yet, thank God, He still came**.

When Jesus was born, things may have seemed complicated to others, but it was simple to Mary and Joseph; they both knew the truth about the virgin birth; this was God's work. The baby she carried was the Son of God. God planned His entrance into humanity down to the last humble detail. Jesus was born in humility, rejected by His own people, humbled Himself on a cross, and was placed in a borrowed tomb. There was no room in the hearts of many people He came to die for, but He came anyway.

God set a plan in place from the beginning of time to redeem His people. He knew the mission would be difficult, but the plan was flawless. "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:6-8).

Jesus was both fully man and fully God. As a man, He was tempted just as we are, but He did not give in to sin. The <u>omniscient</u> God knew all things, but in His humanity, He grew in wisdom and understanding (Luke 2:40). He was <u>omnipotent</u>, all powerful, but His humanity was not superhuman. The <u>omnipresent</u> God filled the universe, yet as far as we know, the Man Christ Jesus was only in one place at any given time.

John wrote, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). When we are filled with the Holy Ghost, the glory of God lives in us. He is available to every human being who will call on His name. The name of Jesus has given us the opportunity to walk and talk with Jesus every day. He loved us while we were still living in sin and gratifying the ungodly hunger of our flesh (sinful nature). God never gave up on us. He stretched out His arms on the cross and drew us to Himself.

Jesus was our example of humility. He came down from Glory, never once complaining the mission was too hard. He focused on the prize: <u>freedom for sin for His children</u>. We should focus on God's mission for our lives. **What is the goal here?** Love God and love people. Jesus' example of humility was to love God; it is worth it. No matter the sacrifice, the plan of God is worth it. Jesus' example was also to love people. It is worth any sacrifice to see our brothers and sisters experience abundant life today and everlasting life one day.

One day we will be with Him in all His glory. Every part of God's creation reminds us how much He loves us. We must purpose in our hearts to focus on the glory He has already shown. As the lover of our souls, He is winning our hearts and wooing us to love and adore Him in His glory.