
Some thoughts to take with you . . . *The Humility of Rejoicing*

Maker of the Sun,
He is made under the sun.
In the Father he remains,
From his mother he goes forth.
Creator of heaven and earth,
He was born on earth under heaven.
Unspeakably wise,
He is wisely speechless.
Filling the world,
He lies in a manger.
Ruler of the stars,
He nurses at his mother's breast.
He is both great in the nature of God,
and small in the form of a servant.
Augustine

He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in a manger in wordless infancy, the the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute.
Augustine

He is the King of kings, the radiance of His glory, the Lord of the spaceless, fabulous, infinite universe, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, unspeakable holy, dwelling in light, unapproachable, changeless ... and yet He condescended to be enclosed in lowly human flesh, to be born a despised Judean, in a filthy stable, in the womb of a simple Israeli woman and without fanfare or pomp.
Author Unknown

The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity – the hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory – because at the Father's will Jesus Christ became poor, and was born in a stable so that thirty years later He might hang on a cross.
J. I. Packer

The Church does not superstitiously observe days, merely as days, but as memorials of important facts. Christmas might be kept as well upon one day of the year as another; but there should be a stated day for commemorating the birth of our Savior, because there is danger that what may be done on any day, will be neglected.
Samuel Johnson

Rejoice! the Lord is Come
The Humility of Rejoicing
Selected Scriptures

Introduction: On this Second Sunday of Advent we pay particular attention to the great humility displayed in the birth of the Savior. Born in an obscure village, in a cave used to house animals, Jesus the Great King was certainly not given the reception He deserved. And we learn from this that, in God's Kingdom, humility always precedes honor. We also learn that, when God dwells in the midst of humility, the humble becomes honored and exalted.

A Lesson in Humility

The village of Bethlehem
The birth of the Savior

But why?

Principle #1: *In the Kingdom of God, humility always precedes honor, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*

Principle #2: *When God dwells in the midst of humility that which is humble is honored and exalted. This is true of a city, and of a soul.*

An Understanding of Honor

The example of Bethlehem
The experience of Christ-followers

Applying God's Truth to Our Lives ...

Rejoice, The Lord Is Come!
The Humility of Rejoicing

Selected Scriptures

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And Understanding of Honor

The example of Bethlehem

The experience of Christ-followers

Applying God's Truth to Our Lives ...

- The Lord's Supper ...
 - The Bread: *My body broken for you*
 - The Cup: *shed for the forgiveness of sins*

KIDS NOTES

The Humility of Rejoicing

The Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

- Bethlehem was:*
 - a huge and important city in Jesus' day.
 - an insignificant village until Jesus was born there.
 - a really great store that sold olive wood carvings.
 - all of the above.

- The lowly circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth show us:*
 - how important humility is to God.
 - that someone didn't plan very well.
 - that Joseph forgot to call ahead for a reservation.
 - all of the above.

- In the Kingdom of God _____ always precedes _____:*
 - hunger, happiness.
 - health, haughtiness.
 - humility, honor.
 - all of the above

For Family Discussion: What about Christmas humbles us? In what ways did the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth model humility?

Space to Doodle

Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

ADVENT _____	TOTAL: _____
HUMILITY _____	_____
BETHLEHEM _____	_____
HONOR _____	_____
INCARNATION _____	_____
CHRISTMAS _____	_____

Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

ADVENT HUMILITY COMPASSION BETHLEHEM HONOR GRACE SIN
 FAITH KINGDOM INCARNATION CHRISTMAS JOSEPH VILLAGE
 MARY CHILD GOVERNMENT DWELL EXALTED PAUL CLAY POTS
 VALUE HAPPY FAMILY LIGHTS CAROLS KINDNESS GENTLENESS

H S M K P C Y D G U C C Q F V H O
 I U S A I L A R L O N R F I H P R
 I V U E I N A R M I Y A L C O E B
 I L T M N C D P O S H L N M N S X
 N H A N E E A N A L A C Y A O O J
 C F A W E S L M E G S K L R R J Y
 A T W P S V T T E S F I P Y C M L
 R Y T I P S D S N W S N Y Q K E L
 N G O C I Y N A T E C G N N R H E
 A N I R H T I A F O G D S O N E W
 T H H D E T L A X E P O N E I L D
 I C F K K H V A L U E M V Y S H W
 O Y A E Y T N E M N R E V O G T O
 N L I G H T S T F C J V X S S E J
 H U M I L I T Y U X X V O L B B D