



## The Humble King

### Key idea:

Jesus is the Humble King, the One Who is truly and fully God but came as a lowly human to save us.

### Key text:

Luke 2:8–14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

### Key points:

1. Jesus is the King, and He came with the powerful announcement by mighty angels and the glory of the Lord.
2. Jesus is the God-Man, Immanuel, God with us, who came to bring us salvation.
3. Jesus came in great humility. This is seen in several ways:
  - a. Mary herself was of humble origins and prophesied that Jesus came for the humble.
  - b. The birth announcement is not to kings or rich, powerful men but to shepherds.
  - c. He was born in the humble circumstances of a manger rather than a palace.
4. Jesus humbled Himself so that He might lift us up and give us salvation and the riches of God’s Kingdom.

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to me? Why?
2. Do I expect words like "great", "mighty", and "King" to be joined with "humility"? Why or why not?
3. Why does God announce the birth of Jesus through a mighty angel, with the glory of the Lord, and an entire angelic choir? What does this communicate about Jesus' birth and identity?
4. How does the Virgin Mary point to the humility of Jesus in His coming? How is she an example of humility to us?
5. When I consider the birth narratives in the Gospels, are the people involved generally wealthy and powerful or poor and powerless? Why did God choose to come to us in this way and through these people?
6. Consider the paradoxes noted by Gregory of Nazianzus, an early Church Father: "He began His ministry by being hungry, yet He is the Bread of Life. Jesus ended His earthly ministry by being thirsty, yet He is the Living Water. Jesus was weary, yet He is our rest. Jesus paid tribute, yet He is the King. Jesus was accused of having a demon, yet He cast out demons. Jesus wept, yet He wipes away our tears. Jesus was sold for thirty pieces of silver, yet He redeemed the world. Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, yet He is the Good Shepherd. Jesus died, yet by His death He destroyed the power of death." Can I think of other paradoxes to describe Christ's Person and Work?
7. What does the manner of God's Salvation - the Incarnation of Christ, coming in humility - tell me about the way God works? How do I expect to see God work in my life? Do I need to adjust my thinking in this area?
8. Why is humility a prerequisite for joy? Is it possible to experience true, deep, lasting joy while walking in pride? Why or why not?
9. Is the Holy Spirit revealing any areas of pride in my life? How can I humble myself in this area?
10. Who will I call or see to encourage this week?

### For Further Study:

[Luke - The Ox](#) (March 16, 2015)

[Jesus Christ - The Supreme Example of Humility](#) (February 24, 2008)

**Mary - A Humble, Thoughtful, Obedient Faith** (December 7, 2014)

**The Humility of the Wise** (November 19, 2006)

**Our Purpose: To Glorify God and Enjoy Him Forever** (July 9, 2019)

**Enjoying God** (November 5, 2017)