

## Born to Die

The Great Descent – Philippians 2:5-11  
December 4, 2016

Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name... **-Philippians 2:9**

### I. NO ROBBERY HERE

- Jesus shares the form (essence) of God, but in the humility of the Incarnation, he willingly set aside his rights as God (Matt. 20:28; Luke 22:27; John 3:16).
- He who had the “form” of God, took on the “form” of a servant and a human “form” when he became man (vss. 6-8; Matt. 21:5).
- In the Incarnation, Jesus did not give up his divinity, he added our humanity. He is “fully God and fully man” (Matt. 1:23; 9:6; 12:8; John 13:1-17).
- Jesus’ Incarnation led to his “death on a cross” (vs. 8; Matt. 1:20-21; Mark 10:32-34).

### II. THE NAME ABOVE EVERY NAME

- Not “a name” but “the name” that is above all names. It is in the name that belongs to Jesus that every knee will bow; the name Kyrios—LORD (Matt. 17:4; 20:30; 21:9).
- Not all will bow out of desire, but all will bow out of necessity. Some with spontaneous ecstasy, others with grudging mourning and shame (2 Chron. 6:24-31; Ps. 79:6; 91:14; Hosea 5:4, 15; 13:4; Luke 7:29; 12:8; Rom. 14:10-12).
- The Incarnation, the humility of Christ, his death upon the cross, our acknowledging him as Lord—all of these realities lead to the glory of God (vs. 11; Isa. 43:7; 2 Pet. 1:17).

**KNOW:** Jesus took on flesh so that he might make a way for us to come to the Father. By his coming down, he has been raised up, and one day every knee will bow to him.

**DO:** Acknowledge the great name of Jesus.

#### Suggested Reading:

*Pleased to Dwell: A Biblical Intro to the Incarnation*, by Peter Mead  
*Why Christ Came: 31 Meditations on the Incarnation*, by Joel Beeke  
*On the Incarnation*, by Athanasius of Alexandria (advanced reading)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please read Philippians 2:5-11

1. What does Paul want us to “have in mind among yourselves..”?
2. Why is it important to keep these things in mind?
3. What point about humility is Paul trying to draw out? (It may help to read the passage in context, starting at 2:1.)
4. What did Jesus have to consider in order to become man? What did he give up? What did he take on?
5. What was the main point of the message Sunday?
6. How can you apply the “Do” point from the message? What can you do to “acknowledge” the great name of Jesus in your life?