

**BIBLE LIFE MESSAGES**

# God Became a Man

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Philippians 2:5-11

**<sup>1</sup> The gospel message is the story of the Lord's life, death and resurrection. What makes this message unique is that it's the telling of God's human life's story. God became a man.**

**One of the Bible's most beautiful summary of this is in Philippians, chapter 2, verses 5 through 11. <sup>2</sup> It reads, Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! <sup>1</sup> <sup>3</sup>**

**Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue**

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<sup>1</sup> v5-8.

**confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** <sup>2</sup> <sub>4</sub>

What this scripture is telling us is that . . .

## **I. God Became One of Us!**

**God became one of us! That's right!** <sub>5</sub>

**Here is a Bible description of God.** In First Timothy, chapter 6, verses 15 and 16, we read, **God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.** <sub>6</sub> **God Himself said, You cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.** <sup>3</sup> **God is so majestic, so above and beyond our understanding we can't even imagine what He is like!** <sub>7</sub>

**But, God wants to have you as His companion.** He wants to know you intimately. <sub>8</sub> **We know this because**

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<sup>2</sup> v9-11.

<sup>3</sup> Exodus 33:20.



God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. <sup>4</sup> He must have enjoyed their company because when they didn't show up one day He called out, "Where are you?" <sup>9</sup>

Then, God became a man named Emmanuel, **God is with us!** <sup>5</sup> <sup>10</sup>

## II. How Do You Know?

How do you know? <sup>11</sup>

Because the Bible describes Jesus as God. <sup>12</sup>

**He is called "the image of God"**. In First Corinthians, chapter 4: verse 4, it says, **The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.** <sup>13</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Genesis 3:8-9 - Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>5</sup> Matthew 1:23 - "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" —which means, "God with us."

Jesus is completely God! Colossians, chapter 2, verse 9, **For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form . . .** <sup>14</sup>

**The Bible also describes Lord Jesus as God with a physical body.** <sup>15</sup> He had to have a human body to be a sin offering for us. Romans, chapter 8, verse 3, **For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.** <sup>16</sup> Jesus had to die in a physical body on the cross to reconcile us to God, **But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.** <sup>6</sup> <sup>17</sup>

**Jesus is described as the Word of God. This is significant!** <sup>18</sup> Follow the logic here, **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** <sup>7</sup> <sup>19</sup> Then, this Word became human

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<sup>6</sup> Colossians 1:22.

<sup>7</sup> John 1:1.

and dwelt among us, **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.** <sup>8</sup> <sub>20</sub>

Then, John, chapter 1, verse 18, nails this home. In the King James Version, that most of us grow up reading, it says, **No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.** <sup>21</sup> In the New International Version, that I am using today, this verse reads, **No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.** <sup>22</sup> This phrase, underlined in both versions above, in the original language, <sup>9</sup> reads, **the only begotten God!** <sup>23</sup>

Finally, **Lord Jesus is described in the Bible as “coming in the flesh”.** Look at two quick passages here. First John, chapter 4, verses 2 and 3, **This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not**

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<sup>8</sup> John 1:14.

<sup>9</sup> μονογενής θεός.



**acknowledge Jesus is not from God.** <sup>24</sup> And again, Second John, verse 7, **Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world.** If Jesus had been only a mere man, there wouldn't have been a reason to draw attention to His bodily (physical) existence! <sup>25</sup>

So . . .

### **III. Did God Just Wear a Human Body Like a Suit of Clothes?**

Did God just wear a human body like a suit of clothes? No! He was a total human being experiencing everything in life you are experiencing! <sup>26</sup> That's one of the main messages in the Book of Hebrews in the New Testament part of our Bible.

This is what the Book of Hebrews says about it. <sup>27</sup> Jesus suffered when He was tempted. <sup>10</sup> <sup>28</sup> Jesus was

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<sup>10</sup> Hebrews 2:18 - Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

tempted, but did not sin. <sup>11</sup> <sub>29</sub> Jesus had human weaknesses. <sup>12</sup> <sub>30</sub> Jesus' prayers were heard because of His submission. <sup>13</sup> <sub>31</sub> Jesus learned obedience from what He suffered. <sup>14</sup> <sub>32</sub>

Actually, the Lord's earthly life is the ultimate human success story! <sup>33</sup> He lived a sinless life with all the human weaknesses you have. <sup>34</sup> He demonstrated that the perfect sin free life is possible to live because He lived it! <sup>35</sup> That's why God can justly condemn you. You really need God's forgiveness! <sup>36</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin.

<sup>12</sup> Hebrews 5:2 - He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.

<sup>13</sup> Hebrews 5:7 - During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

<sup>14</sup> Hebrews 5:8 - . . . Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered . . .



## IV. How Should Lord Jesus Being God Affect Your Life?

How should Lord Jesus being God affect your life? <sup>37</sup>

**It should show you how God expects you to live.** Lord Jesus' life demonstrated how He wants you to live. <sup>38</sup> But the Bible says you come short of God's glory; His expectations for your life! Romans, chapter 3, verses 10 through 12 say, There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Romans, chapter 3, verse 23, continues, ... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God . . . <sup>39</sup> This is not saying you are incapable of living a sin free life with the Holy Spirit's help. It just says no one has been willing to! <sup>40</sup> To the degree you are willing, the Holy Spirit will help you live your life more victoriously than you could on your own. <sup>41</sup>

When you fall, the Lord's wonderful grace picks you up and forgives. Remember First John, chapter 1, verse 9, **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** 42

**It should keep you away from the "Christian" cults.** Nearly every cult denies that Jesus was actually God in flesh. When anyone offers to "study the Bible" with you in your home, ask them what they believe about who Lord Jesus is. If they don't accept the deity of Christ, you know that they are a cult and not a Christian Church. 43

**It should give you a better understanding of the unleavened bread in the Lord's Supper.** In First Corinthians, chapter 11, verses 23 and 24, it says, **The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."** The Lord wanted you to remember and to proclaim His incarnation when you

eat the unleavened bread. <sup>44</sup> “Incarnation” means the Lord taking on a human form when He came to earth from heaven. The event of Christmas is the beginning of the gospel message. Remember and proclaim it! <sup>45</sup>

**It should compel you to worship every Lord’s Day** and adore the One who loved you enough to create you, provide for you and to die for you! <sup>46</sup>

Who’s that baby? He’s the Almighty Creator of the universe! He loves you so much He was willing to lower Himself to become like you so you could become like Him! He wants you to surrender yourself to Him as Lord so that He can mold you into His image!

<http://biblelifemessages.org/>