



*When  
Love  
Came  
Down*

A Three Part Series

"The Descent, The Rescue, The Gift"

---

December 7, 14 & 21

10:15 AM

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# *The Descent*

Philippians 2:5-11



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You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

*Call to the Word | Php 2:5-11*



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Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Call to the Word | Php 2:5-11*



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## Christmas from Heaven's View

The eternal Son of God crossed the distance from heaven's throne to our broken world—laying aside His privileges, becoming fully human, and humbling Himself to the cross so we can live forever with Him.

This isn't just a story to admire; it's a pattern to imitate.

*Introduction*



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“Let Christ himself be your example as to what your attitude should be.”

Philippians 2 isn't just a Christmas passage to admire from a distance; it is meant to be a pattern we actually imitate.

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*Php 2:5 | The Mindset*



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The Baby we see in the manger is the eternal Son, fully God, sharing the glory, authority, and beauty of the Father.

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*Php 2:6 | The Height*



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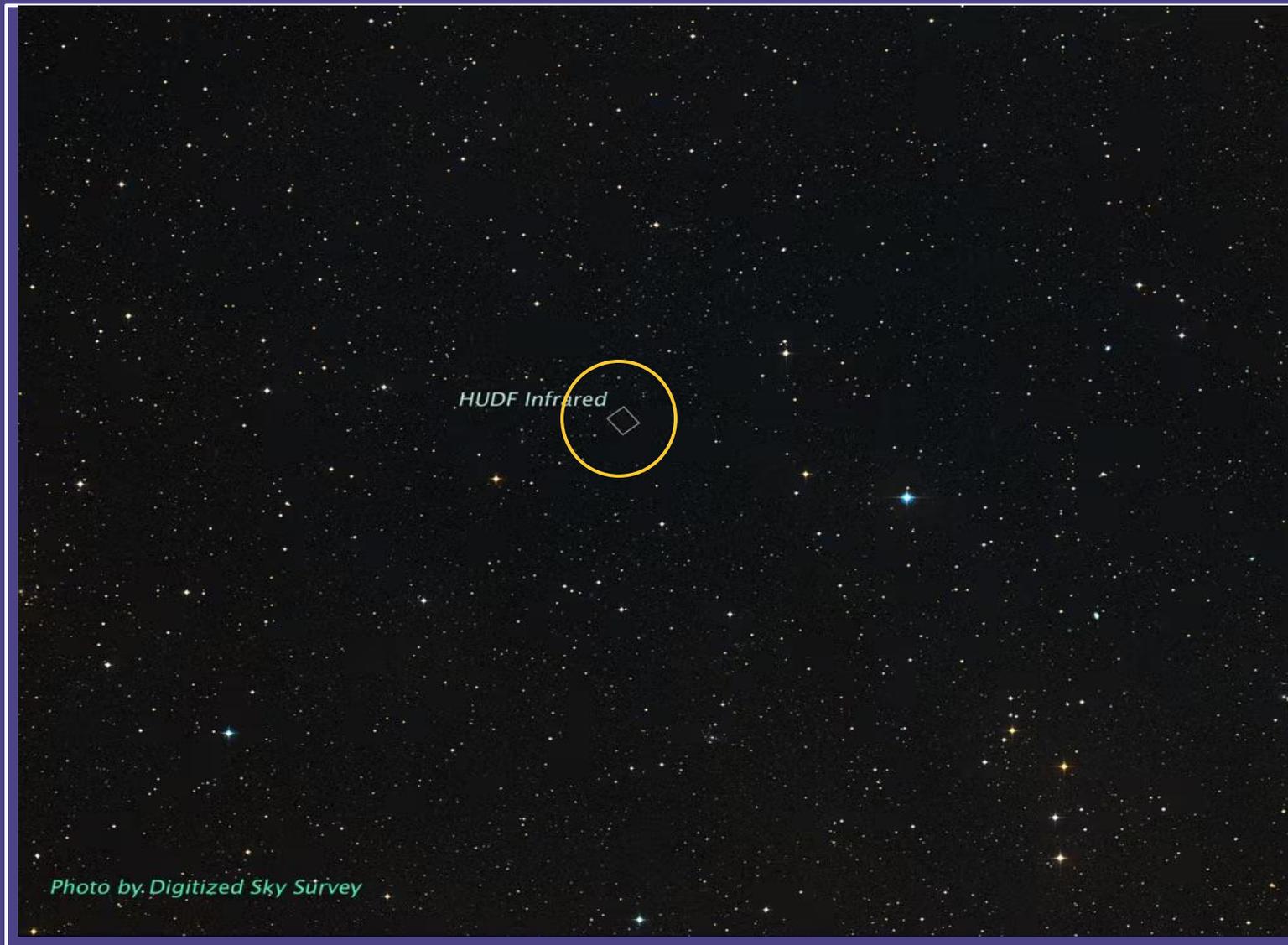
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“All things were made through Him... and without Him nothing was made that was made.” (Jn 1:3)

“By Him all things were created... all things were created through Him and for Him.” (Col 1:16)

He is “upholding all things by the word of His power.” (Heb 1:3)

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*We are not just cooing over a cute baby; we're bowing before the eternal Son of God, the creator of life and universe.*

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## Kenosis – “emptied Himself”

The eternal Son willingly laid aside the privileges and visible display of His divine glory, took on real humanity, and chose to live here as a servant, obeying the Father all the way to the cross.

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*Phlp 2:7 | The Kenosis*



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## Kenosis – “emptied Himself”

The emptying is not subtraction of deity; it’s addition of humanity and a voluntary “self-limiting” of the free exercise of His rights.

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*Php 2:7 | The Kenosis*



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He never stopped being worthy of worship, but He laid down His demand to be treated that way.

He chose, for a time, not to live by His rights as God, but to live as our Servant so He could die as our Savior.

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*"The lower he stoops to save us, the  
higher we ought to lift him in our  
adoring reverence."*

*(Spurgeon)*

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God → man → humbled Himself → obedient to death → even the cross.

*He humbled Himself*

One scholar calls the cross “the bottom rung in the ladder from the throne of God... the most despised death of all.”

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*Php 2:8 | His Obedience*



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**Isaiah 53:4–6**

**He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows...**

**He was wounded for our transgressions,**

**bruised for our iniquities...**

**the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

**This is how low love had to go.**

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***“Our death to selfishness is the shining gateway into the glories of the palace of the King.”***

**(Unknown)**

**Matt 16:25**

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Exalted: lifted up to a place of great honor; exalted with all exaltation; to be "super-exalted."

*"Christ did not crown Himself, but His Father crowned Him. The world mocked Him; the Father has enthroned Him." (Spurgeon)*

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*Php 2:9-11 | His Exaltation*



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1 Peter 5:6:

"Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

We are never more like Jesus than when we choose humble, costly love.

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“Being humble means recognizing that we are not on earth to see how important we can become, but to see how much difference we can make in the lives of others.”

“Be humble, or you’ll stumble.”  
(Moody)

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*Php 2:9-11 | His Exaltation*



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