

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

There & Back Again: the Humiliation & Mind of Christ

### Speaker:

Tim Shorey

### Date:

November 22, 2009

### Scriptures:

Philippians 2:5-11

## Kids Corner

- 1) What is a curse?
- 2) Who does God curse?
- 3) What does it mean that Jesus became the curse for us?

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**Theme:** It is absolutely astonishing what Jesus endured for us, and it is absolutely imperative that we do likewise for each other.

**Introduction:** Our passage embodies the core and essence of our faith. It is book-ended by strong affirmations of Jesus' deity as he is both "in the form of God" (v. 6) and is "Lord" (v. 11). But in between is an abyss of humiliation, horror and shame. We must see Jesus' journey there and back again, and its implications for our lives in:

### 1) Our Lord's pre-Christmas glory

- Jesus was in the form of God—true God of true God.
- "He is the one Person who was alive long before he was born" (Bruce Ware).
- He was the God who Isaiah saw in Isaiah 6:1-5, resplendent and magnificent (cf. John 12:41). He was glorious beyond anything we can imagine.

### 2) Our Lord's 3-step descent into humiliation

- Step 1: A heart attitude—he willingly relinquished his equality with God, letting go of the glory that was his due.
- Step 2: A humbling addition—he humbled himself in two ways: taking servant form and taking on humanity.
- Step 3: A posture of obedience & slavery—he humbled himself even further by suffering the indignities of the cross. He became the curse for us (cf. Deut 21:22-23 & Gal 3:10).

### 3) What it means for us

- We must worship and adore Jesus. How else could we respond in light of what he has done for us?
- We must see the example of Jesus and allow the gospel implications to propel us to grow in humility, not insisting on our own designs or living for ourselves, but living humbly and for the glory of the Father.

### Questions:

- 1) Has the curse of God been removed from your life?
- 2) How does the example of Jesus' humiliation confront your selfishness?
- 3) Where do you most need to grow in humility?
- 4) How does the gospel motivate you to greater humility?

\*\*If you would like re-read the extended quote on Jesus' death, it can be found in Joni Eareckson Tada & Steve Estes, *When God Weeps*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.