

## THE LOWLY CHRIST

David C F Wright DD

We often refer to the Lord Jesus as gentle Jesus meek and mild. We forget that He took a whip and threw out of the Temple those who were buying and selling. A place of worship is not to be a place for buying and selling!

The Christmas carol Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy Kingly crown states:

But of lowly birth camest Thou Lord on earth  
And in great humility.

Another says :

Thou who was rich beyond all splendour  
All for love's sake becamest poor.

And we have all sung:

Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die.

There are verses in Scripture which indicate the lowliness of the Lord Jesus.

In Micah 5 2 we read of the place of His Birth namely Bethlehem Ephratah ' though it be little among the thousands of Judah yet out of thee shall come unto me one who is to be the ruler in Israel.'

When Mary was told she was to be the mother of the Lord Jesus she said, ' For God hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, but from henceforth people shall call me Blessed ' ( Luke 1. 48).

He was born in a stable and laid in a manger because there was no room in the Inn (Matthew 2.7).

In the days of His ministry, He said 'Take my yoke upon you and learn of Me for I am meek and lowly in heart' (Matthew 11.29).

He rode on a donkey into Jerusalem , on what some call Palm Sunday, and the people said, 'Behold the King cometh unto thee, meek and sitting upon an ass '( Matthew 21.5).

He became a servant in order to serve us and bring salvation. He was not ostentatious or pompous. He did not act like a celebrity.

Philippians 2 7 says of Him that He made Himself of no reputation and took upon Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross

He did not have a publicity campaign or hire any imposing building for meetings. He was not a flashy or charismatic evangelist. The Gospel was free and His healing ministry was for all who came to Him. He turned no one away.

And that applies to the Gospel. In John 12.32, He said, 'And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me.' Salvation is possible to all men and women since whosoever will may come.

When He was on trial, He opened not His mouth (Isaiah 53. 7). We read that there was no deceit in His mouth. He was stricken because of the transgression of His people and He was made an offering for sin... yours and mine. He poured out His soul unto death and made intercession for the transgressors.

We ought to consider what it means to be humble and meek. Being humble is being modest in behaviour and attitude, the opposite of arrogance and pride. To be meek is really to be patient and to display gentleness.

Humility and meekness is often considered to be weakness. It is said to be not manly. The hymn His be the Victor's name includes these lines:

By weakness and defeat  
He won the mead and crown  
Trode all our foes beneath His feet  
By being trodden down.

The old CSSM chorus puts it this way:

He did it for me,  
he did it for me.  
A sinner as guilty as ever could be.  
Oh! how I love Him,  
Now that I see,  
He suffered, He died  
And He did it for me.

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