

A photograph of a newborn baby's face and arm, held gently by an adult's hand. The baby's eyes are closed, and the hand is positioned near the baby's chest. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**FROM
KING
OF
GLORY
TO
HELPLESS
BABY**

Katherine Hilditch

LifeinJesus.net

'From King of Glory to Helpless Baby'
by
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FROM KING OF GLORY TO HELPLESS BABY

Christmas is all about the time God came to earth to be born as a little baby. It's such an amazing thing for Him to have done. Imagine God Almighty, all-powerful, all-glorious, all-knowing, all-wise leaving the glory of heaven to be born as a baby into a humble family. Why on earth would He do it?

The answer is because He loves you. John 3:16-17 says – '*For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him.*' He sent His Son, Jesus, to save you because He loves you so much.

Why was He Born in a Stable?

Where would you expect God to be born – in a magnificent palace? God had a different plan. He chose a place where animals ate. It would have been dirty and smelly and draughty, if it had a door at all. The only place His mother Mary could find to put Jesus down to sleep was the manger – the animals' feeding trough. What was God doing? But think about it again – if Jesus had been born in riches and splendour most people would never have been able to see Him, never mind visit Him. He had to be born in the most humble of places so anyone and everyone could have access to Him.

His first visitors were humble shepherds from the fields. If they had turned up at a palace they would have been quickly sent away with their tails between their legs. But in a stable the shepherds could just arrive and go in without any problem.

Anyone can enter a stable, but most of the world's population would never be able to go into a palace. Jesus came for everyone, including the poor and hopeless and helpless. Absolutely anyone can come to Him and receive His love, His mercy and His salvation. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 says that – *‘God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame those who are wise. God chose the weak things of the world that he might put to shame the things that are strong. ²⁸God chose the lowly things of the world, and the things that are despised, and the things that don't exist, that he might bring to nothing the things that exist, ²⁹that no flesh should boast before God.’* Not only did being born in a stable mean everyone could come to Jesus, but it sent a message to the powerful and influential people who thought themselves very wise and important, telling them that their earthly position didn't mean anything to God. He simply wants people with hearts that are soft towards Him – the outward trappings mean nothing in the end.

Jesus is for everyone, not just the fine, the strong, the wise and the wealthy. If you are one of those people, let me assure you He came for you. But if you are someone who is struggling with life, if you are poor, if you are disabled or sick, if you are heartbroken, if you are homeless, Jesus came for you too. Imagine yourself going to that smelly stable and freely walking in with no-one to stop you and seeing God Himself as a baby come to earth for you.

What changed for Jesus?

So what did it mean for God to come as a baby? It was an amazing sacrifice that He made. Jesus lived in unimaginable glory in heaven and then was born as a helpless baby in a stable.

God is perfect. Not only does He never sin, He can't have sin in His presence. But a baby can't tell right from wrong. Isaiah 7:14-15 says – *'Behold, the virgin will conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat butter and honey when he knows to refuse the evil and choose the good.'* Jesus had to learn what was good and what was bad. This doesn't mean he was naughty – the Bible says He never sinned. It means that He didn't bring with Him that perfect understanding. He learnt it as He grew.

God is omnipresent – that means He is everywhere. But a baby can only be in one very small place.

God created the whole world and holds it in His hands. But a new-born baby cannot make anything or knowingly take hold of anything.

God speaks – He created the world through the power of His words. But a baby cannot speak at all. Jesus would have to learn to speak just like any other baby.

God is in control, but a baby can't control itself in any way – physically, mentally or emotionally.

God knows all things. But Jesus knew nothing as a baby. He learnt as He grew. Luke 2:52 says – *'And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men.'*

God does not have to submit to anyone or anything. He is above everyone and everything in every way. Jesus had to submit to His parents, Mary and Joseph, as He grew. Luke 2:51 says that – *'He was subject to them.'*

God does not depend on anyone. But a baby is totally dependent on others for all His needs. Jesus depended on His parents for food, for love, for security, for warmth, for shelter.

Why did God do it?

So why did God leave the glory of heaven to come to earth as a baby? He came to die. That sounds so strange, but Jesus's death was the purpose of His birth.

God is perfect and cannot have sin near Him, but people cannot be perfect. Yet God wanted so much to be able to have a relationship with them. How could He do this when they kept sinning – doing, speaking and thinking wrong things?

In the Old Testament God had given the law to His people to show them what true goodness looked like. He knew they would never be able to keep it perfectly and wanted them to realise this and see that they needed help – they needed a Saviour. The law had a system of animal sacrifices alongside it which could be made to receive forgiveness from God. But none of these sacrifices were sufficient to deal with the whole issue of sin. After being forgiven the people would sin again and would need to offer another sacrifice.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. It is a small city about six miles south of Jerusalem. It was in the fields around Bethlehem that the lambs which were used in the sacrifices were born and raised. Many years before Jesus was born He was referred to as a lamb. He was to be the final sacrifice – the one that completely paid for every wrong action, word and thought for all people, for all sins and for all time. When Jesus was killed on the Cross, He was the final sacrifice that totally dealt with every sin, past, present and future. He was the perfect Lamb from Bethlehem. God did what He had always wanted to do ever since the first sin – He had forgiven everyone every sin and was able to have a love relationship with anyone and everyone who would accept what Jesus had done for them.

Jesus suffered the punishment for all your sins so you could be forgiven. He did it for everyone. Jesus was born as a baby so that He could die as the once-for-all final and perfect sacrifice so you could enter into a wonderful love relationship with God.

What else did Jesus Do for You?

When Jesus suffered and died, His body was broken so yours could be healed. 1 Peter 2:24 says – *‘You were healed by his wounds.’*

When Jesus left all the glory behind and became poor, He made it possible for you to leave poverty behind when you are born-again. (To read about being born-again, go to the end of this booklet.) 2 Corinthians 8:9 says – *‘For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.’* Jesus won prosperity for you if you will believe it and receive it.

When you go through difficult times, you can know that Jesus went through terrible times Himself and understands first-hand what it is like to live on this earth. He overcame the difficulties and will help you to as well. When you are tempted to sin, Jesus knows what that is like. Hebrews 4:15 says – *‘For we don’t have a high priest (Jesus) who can’t be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but one who has been in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin.’* Notice that this verses says ‘in all points’. Yes, Jesus suffered every single temptation known to man – He knows what it feels like. But He never gave in. Being tempted isn’t wrong – it happens. But giving in to it is. When you’re tempted to do or say or think something wrong, instantly turn your thoughts to Jesus. He knows how you feel and He will give you the strength to resist if you will let Him.

Everything Jesus did for you as He suffered and died can give you victory in your life because He achieved it all by defeating the devil and his plans. 1 John 3:8 says – *‘To this end the Son of God was revealed: that he might destroy the works of the devil.’* Bad stuff comes from the devil. Good things come from God. When bad things happen, go to Jesus who has defeated the devil and let Him show you the way through and out the other side.

What Happened to Jesus after He had Died?

Jesus’s body lay in a tomb for three days and then He came back to life. He didn’t only defeat evil and sickness and poverty, He defeated death itself. Hebrews 2:14 says – *‘Since then the children (you) have shared in flesh and blood, he also himself (Jesus) in the same way partook of the same, that through death he might bring to nothing him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.’* Jesus defeated the devil and in doing so, defeated his main weapon – death. Death couldn’t keep hold of Him – nothing could stop Him from coming back to life in a new resurrected body which could never die again. This means that if you are born-again your earthly body will die, but you will be given a new resurrected body just like Jesus, and you will live forever with Him in perfect joy and peace. In John 11:25-26 Jesus said – *“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will still live, even if he dies. ²⁶Whoever lives and believes in me will never die.”*

After spending time with His followers, Jesus went back to heaven. He went back to the glory He had left behind. Philippians 2:7-11 says that He – *‘emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, yes, the death of the cross. ⁹Therefore God*

also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.’ Jesus now sits on the throne of God in glory, but He still has an appearance of the Lamb from Bethlehem. He still bears the scars of His death – God’s final sacrifice.

More than a Just a Baby

This Christmas, as you receive cards with pictures of the stable and sing carols about the nativity, remember how Jesus came to earth as a baby for you; but don’t leave Him there in the manger. Remember how He grew and became the final, perfect sacrifice for you and for everyone. Find the true meaning of Christmas as you accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. And take time away from all the pressure and all the fun to go deeper into your relationship with Him, knowing that He did it all for love – Jesus loves you to the point of total sacrifice. He was nailed to a Cross, but He could have come down from it. However, He chose to stay. It wasn’t the nails that held Him there – it was His love for you. Jesus became nothing so that you could become everything.

Your relationship with God isn’t about how you perform or measure up as it was in the Old Testament – it’s about what Jesus did on the Cross for you. Jesus came to earth as a baby to die for you and come back to life so that you could live forever with Him. Christmas is truly happy!

Being Born-Again

When you acknowledge Jesus as God and decide to follow Him, you make Him your Lord. When you accept His sacrifice on the Cross for yourself personally, you make Him your Saviour. You are then born-again and have a new perfect spirit. God becomes your Father and you His child, and you can start to enjoy your personal love relationship with Him.

Romans 10:9 says – *‘If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.’* Tell God you are sorry for the wrong things you do, say and think. Choose to believe that Jesus is Lord, that He died for you and is now alive. Accept Him as your Lord and Saviour. Say it with your voice and believe it in your heart.

If you’ve done that sincerely, you are now born-again and Jesus has come to live in you in your new spirit. Everything you’ve ever done wrong or ever will do wrong is forgiven, and after this life is over, you’ll live in peace and joy with your loving Father God for ever.

As a child of God, you now have a whole new family of brothers and sisters. Tell a trusted Christian that you are now born-again so they can help you in your new life in Jesus. And you have the Bible to help you understand and experience more of God’s love for you and all Jesus has done and won for you. It will help you to live your life in the best possible way – His way.

Life in Jesus

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and all He has done and won for us
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Christmas is enjoyed by so many people,
but what really happened all those years ago
is more amazing than anything you could imagine –
God Himself came to earth.
Jesus left behind all the glory of heaven
to become a helpless baby.

Find out what it meant for Him, why He did it,
and what it can mean for you.



Katherine Hilditch has been teaching in local churches for many years. In 2013 she wrote her first booklet and since then has written many more. She created her website to make all the booklets freely available to everyone. They can be read online or printed out. Katherine's threefold purpose is to help people understand more about Jesus and all He has done and won for them, to encourage them to go deeper in their relationship with God and to provide material to help them share their faith with others. To read her story and find all the booklets go to –

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