Daily Devotional, December 21, 2020

"Coming in the Likeness of Men", (Philippians 2:7, NKJV)

"but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7)

Jesus Christ is God. He has always existed as a Divine Person. He will always exist as a Divine Person. Jesus is worthy "to receive glory and honor and power" (Revelation 4:11). Yet He chose to make "Himself of no reputation." The Son of God instead willingly received swaddling cloths, rejection, despisement, and temptation. All of these so that He could identify with the human condition. Jesus became one of us, except for the fact that He was unable to sin because He never divested Himself of the divine nature, although Christ did set aside some of His attributes for a season. "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

No man could have written this script. The plan of God was divine through and through, the fulfillment of that "which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:2-4). If Jesus had not come down on Christmas morn two thousand years ago, we would still be in sin and error pining. But He has appeared and completed His work, and the soul that chooses Him shall surely live. As sure as God came to earth, those who believe on His name shall come to heaven one day! Let us rejoice in this every day of the Christmas season. Let us learn the lesson of humility that our Lord taught us. Let us take no mind regarding the perception of men, but rather let us set our minds and affections upon the Father and seek His approval by doing those things which He has created us for, and caused us to enter the world as babes to do. In all these things, let us be imitators of our humble Lord, God, and Savior.