

The Messiah Who Became a Disciple. The Reality of the Son’s Incarnation

Isaiah 50:1-5

Mat. 11:28-29 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and **learn from me**, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Gal. 4:19 My little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!

John 5:39 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

Is. 50:1 Thus says the LORD: ‘Where is your mother’s certificate of divorce, with which I sent her away? Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities you were sold, and for your transgressions your mother was sent away.’

Is. 50:2-3 Why, when I came, was there no man; why, when I called, was there no one to answer? Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, by my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a desert; their fish stink for lack of water and die of thirst. I clothe the heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering.

(LSB) **Is. 50:4-5** Lord Yahweh has given Me the tongue of disciples, That I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning; He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. Lord Yahweh has opened My ear; And I did not rebel Nor did I turn back.

I. Submission to God – the Foundation of the Son’s Earthly Life

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The Lord Yahweh – Adonai Yahweh / אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה /

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

Phil. 2:6-8 Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, **he humbled himself by becoming obedient** to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Mat. 4:1 Then Jesus **was led up by the Spirit** into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

John 19:10-11 So Pilate said to him, 'You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?' Jesus answered him, '**You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above.**' Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.'

The key aspect of the incarnation of the Son of God was His complete and voluntary obedience to the Father, because this is the essence of true humanity.

John 15:10-11 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

A life of obedience to God is a life of abiding in His love, and it leads to fullness of joy.

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II. A Willingness to Learn – the Character of the Son's Life

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Luke 2:46-47 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, **listening to them and asking them questions.** And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

Luke 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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Heb. 5:8-9 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

Christianity is a life shaped by ongoing union with Christ—a union established by faith and lived out in daily obedience to Him.

James 1:19 Know this, my beloved brothers: **let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak,** slow to anger.

2 Tim. 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable **for teaching**, for reproof, for correction, and **for training** in righteousness, that the man of God[a] may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Tit. 2:11-12 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, **training us** to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

III. Building Up by the Word – the Practice of the Son's Life

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Mat. 20:28 Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

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John 17:6-8 I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. **For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth** that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

Col. 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Eph. 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

John 15:10-11 If you keep my commandments, **you will abide in my love**, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that **your joy may be full**.

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As you reflect on the incarnation of Christ, consider this:

- True humanity means complete submission to God as Lord.
- A true human being learns to understand the will of God and to obey it, humbly recognizing his need.
- A true human being learns so that, being filled with the Word of God, he may strengthen others by sharing that Word with them.