

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for December 29-30, 2001**

**Dale Whitehead**

**The Christmas Story from Paul's Perspective**

**Philippians 2:5-11**

Philippians 2:5-8 is a description of Christ's humiliation, which is the early phase of the Christmas story according to Paul.

Philippians 2:9-11 is a description of Christ's exaltation, which is the later phase of the Christmas story from Paul's perspective.

The first area of truth that we will consider are the steps involved in Christ's exaltation.

God the Father's response to all that Christ gave up was to exalt Him (Matthew 23:12; Luke 14:11; 18:14; James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6).

The word "exalt" (HUPERUPSOU) is a compound word which means "to super-exalt, to raise someone to the loftiest height."

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Just as there were four steps involved in Christ descending from riches to rags there are also four steps involved in Christ ascending from rags to riches.

The first step involved in Christ's exaltation was His resurrection (Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18).

The second step involved in Christ's exaltation was His ascension (Acts 1:9-12).

The third step involved in Christ's exaltation was the unveiling of His glory (Hebrews 2:9).

As we follow in the footsteps of Jesus let us remember that before we can enjoy the crown we must be willing to take up the cross.