

There is a funny thing about how Jesus came to save the world. It was completely upside-down from what you may expect.

Why is Jesus birth so strange?

Jesus is fabulously famous; He is God after all! The most important person ever didn't have a royal palace or a mansion in Malibu to come to; He came to a small, dirty, and very humble barn to save everyone. And this is completely upside-down from our expectations. When Jesus chose disciples to follow Him, He didn't pick the powerful or important. Quite the opposite. He chose the humble and lowly. Normally, important leaders require their followers to sacrifice themselves, but not Jesus; He did it upside-down, and died in our place.

Jesus let Himself be killed so that He could take our punishment.

Is Jesus important?

First, to understand how upside-down it was for Jesus to be born in a barn, it is important to understand that Jesus is God. The Bible tells us that there is only one God; and that Jesus is God and God the Father is God and the Holy Spirit is God. Jesus chose to be born into humble beginnings.

The most powerful being was born in a barn and slept in a trough.

Humble birth to life of luxury?

No. Early in His life, His family ran away to Egypt because King Herod wanted to kill Him. That doesn't seem like a great start for someone like Jesus. God the Father did take care of Jesus by having wise men deliver gifts and these were used to pay for the escape. After that, Jesus went back to Nazareth and likely helped Joseph, His adopted father, build furniture for a living. He may not have had a mansion in the hills as a child, but He did have knowledge that was amazing to the most learned men in Israel!

**The Bible says, "Everyone who heard Him was amazed at his understanding and His answers."
(Luke 2:47 NIV)**

Why this matters to you?

As we continue to unwrap the upside-down nature of Jesus' life, you will see more and more that His topsy-turvy truth is aimed directly at you. Jesus very intentionally chose a humble family and a normal childhood. Jesus can understand our struggles and our lives because he lived that life too. He cared for you so much that He turned everything on its head and came down to live like us; not as some rich ruler in the sky, but as a humble teacher who died for you.

Jesus, "...made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." (Philippians 2:7, NIV)