



Scripture nugget – God shows us how great it is to be human

And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. From His fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace (John 1:14, 16).

God gives great dignity and honour to man when His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ assumed human flesh and lived amongst man like one of us, to redeem the human race.

After the Incarnation, Christ, the only begotten Son of God is also truly Man. By being borne into our midst as a human baby, Christ made a profound statement of identity with the human race. Christ, the Author of Grace and purer than a newly baptized baby was not ashamed to be identified with us, sinful human beings. Only in heaven will our limited human intellect be able to grasp fully the extent of Christ's sacrifice when He stripped Himself of glory, splendor and majesty due to Him as Son of the Most High, and willingly stepped down from His throne in heaven. Scripture tells us that He humbled and emptied Himself, made Himself a slave of God for the welfare of man, and was obedient to death on a cross (cf. Philippians 2:7-8). When the angels in heaven rebelled, they were expelled from heaven and forever condemned. However, when Adam and Eve our first parents fell from grace, God was swift to take remedial, redeeming action and promised the sending of a saviour who turned out to be none other than His precious only begotten Son!

It is really the wondrous love of God for us that makes us so special, precious and great.

Christ Who is the one able to see the Heavenly Father and to reveal Him to us, tells us in Words and deed how much our Heavenly Father loves us. In Christ's own words: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16). St Paul reminds us that God will not deny us anything for our good after giving us everything in the form of Christ (cf. Romans 8:32). Indeed, God gives different gifts and allow different sufferings to different souls. Some of us may feel unsatisfied in our present situation or feel that God is unfair. However, we will not be judged on the gifts He gave us nor the situation we find ourselves in but on the way we respond to His gifts or our situation. The greater the love we give in each response, the greater our heavenly reward. Thus, our freewill is a great gift from God, which makes us like Him. We can choose to please ourselves and inherit emptiness and unfulfillment at the end of the road or commit ourselves to please God and earn our eternal crown of glory and inheritance of God's Kingdom. Yes, indeed, God plans a splendid eternity for every one of His children who loves Him (cf. 1Corinthians 2:9). *For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God (Romans 8:19)*. In heaven when our faces are finally unveiled, we will be able to see the glory of the Lord, and we ourselves will be transformed in increasing glory into His image (cf. 2 Corinthians 3:18)!

Conversation with Jesus. Precious Lord, thank You for creating me as a human being in Your image, and redeeming me with Your precious Blood. My love for and gratitude to You is eternal and I am pleased to consecrate myself to You forever. Thus, give me all the graces I need to fulfill God's will daily and to do everything to please my Heavenly Father. Help me focus on the unending joys that await me in my true home in heaven. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for me. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Jesus.