

33 YEARS OLD





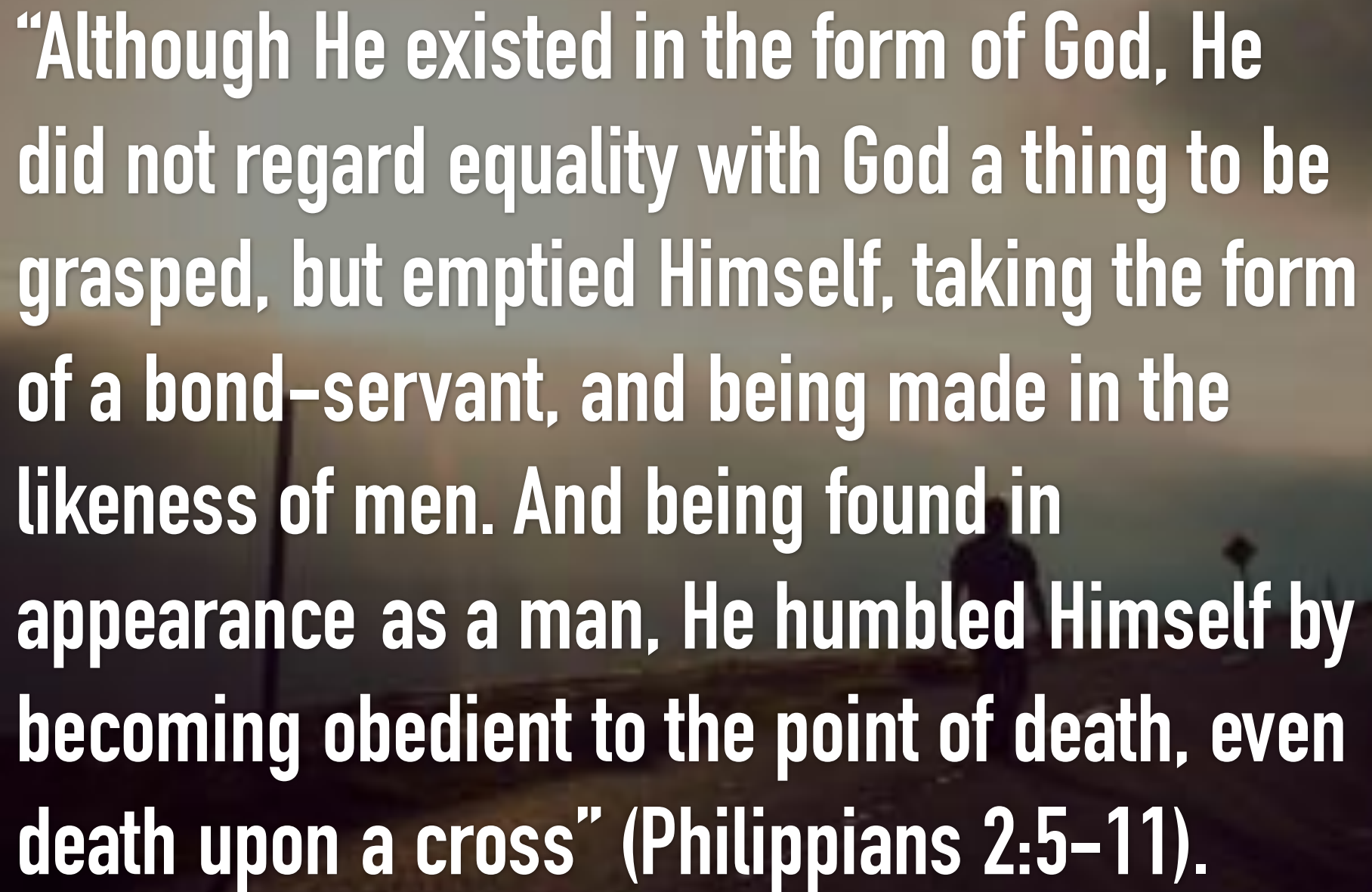
THE PLAN

A LIFE THAT AMOUNTED TO . . .

- By the time Jesus was 33, He had practically no money to His name, many powerful enemies, a band of followers that did not handle their moment of decision with great aplomb, and no earthly kingdom. No monuments. No honors. No fame.
- He wasn't what any of us would call successful (John 6:66, 7:5). Yet, He captivated people and walked around with such self-assurance and dignity. He was incomparable (Matt. 7:28–29, 12:22–23, Luke 4:32, John 7:31, 9:30–33).

“I AND THE FATHER ARE ONE”

- **For a man whose life apparently amounted to nothing, and ended in a criminal's death, Jesus accomplished more in His 33 years than we could in a thousand lifetimes.**
- **John 10:22-39**
- **John 5:17-19**
- **“For I came down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me” (John 6:38). I wonder how many of our pursuits and accomplishments can fit such a definition?**

A person is walking away from the camera on a dirt path that leads towards a cross in the distance. The scene is set during sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden glow in the sky and long shadows cast on the ground. The text is overlaid on this background in a large, white, sans-serif font.

“Although He existed in the form of God, He did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death upon a cross” (Philippians 2:5-11).

APPLICATIONS

- **If I had only 33 years to live, how would I use them? With purpose? Can I say I've made the most of my time?**
- **Our definition of “accomplishment” is shattered when we consider the life of Jesus, who accomplished nothing but everything at the same time (Acts 2:22ff).**
- **Life is more than our years on earth, so I need to be living not merely for earthly things, but for heavenly things (Eph. 1:18ff). Jesus saw this life as a means to an end (Heb. 2:14ff, 5:7-9).**