

Acts Series

Lesson #75

July 24, 2012

Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



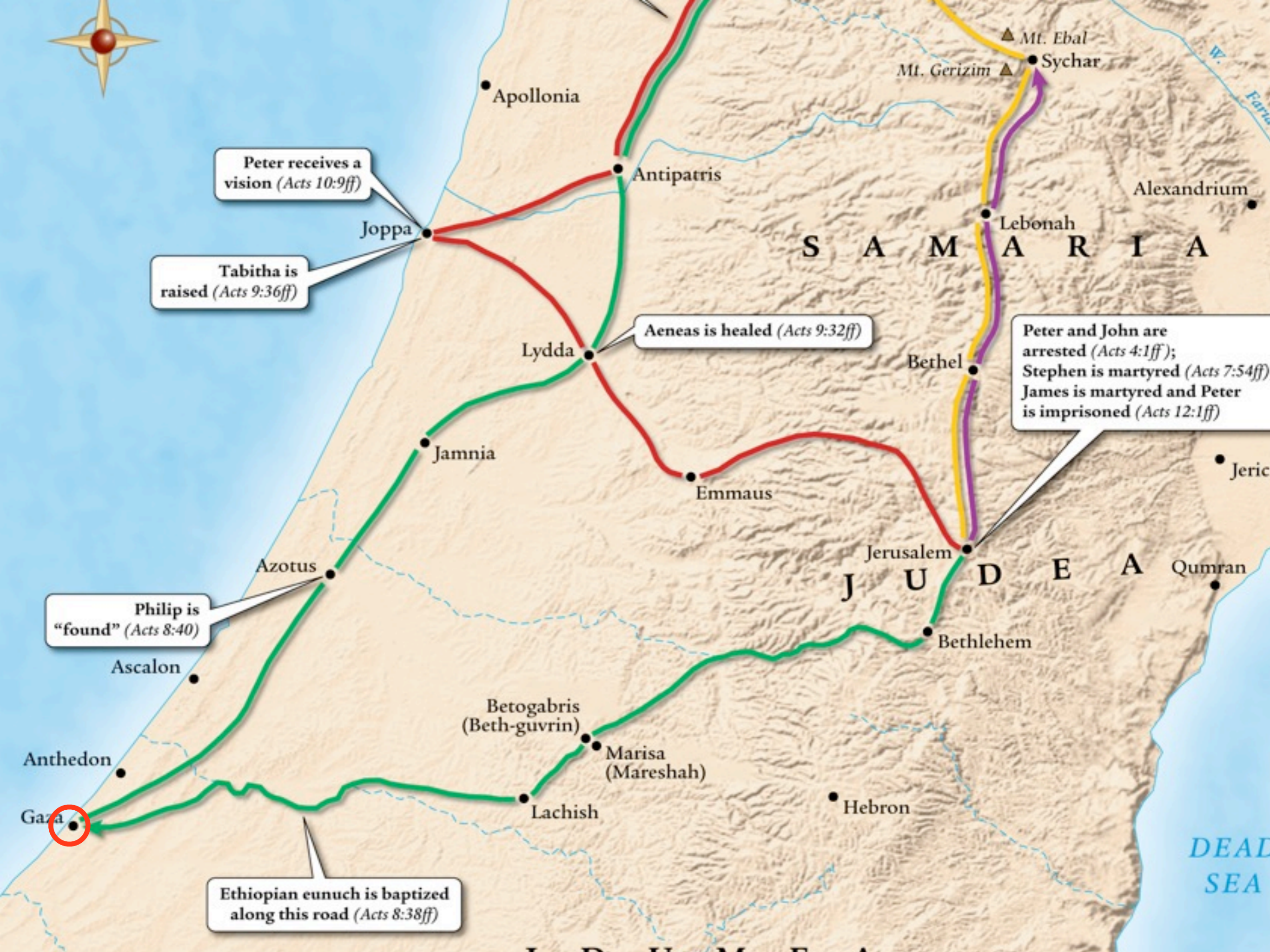
# The Acts of the Apostles “To the end of the earth” Acts 1:8

## Who is “My Servant?” Acts 8:26–40; Isaiah 53



**Acts 8:26, “Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, ‘Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ This is desert.”**





Peter receives a vision (Acts 10:9ff)

Tabitha is raised (Acts 9:36ff)

Aeneas is healed (Acts 9:32ff)

Peter and John are arrested (Acts 4:1ff); Stephen is martyred (Acts 7:54ff); James is martyred and Peter is imprisoned (Acts 12:1ff)

Philip is "found" (Acts 8:40)

Ethiopian eunuch is baptized along this road (Acts 8:38ff)

Ascalon

Anthedon

Gaza

Betogabris (Beth-guvrin)

Marisa (Mareshah)

Lachish

Hebron

Bethlehem

Jerusalem

Emmaus

Lydda

Jamnia

Azotus

Joppa

Antipatris

Apollonia

Mt. Gerizim

Mt. Ebal

Sychar

Lebonah

Alexandrium

Bethel

Jericho

Qumran

DEAD SEA

SAMARIA

JUDEA

JUDUM





**Acts 8:27, “So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace [Kandake] the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship,”**





# **What was the Ethiopian?**

## **Four options**

- 1. A Jew**
- 2. A full proselyte to Judaism, accepted the Torah, and all customs and practices of the Jews.**
- 3. A proselyte of the gate, if he was a literal eunuch.**
- 4. A Gentile, “God-fearer” not actual proselytes, or Jews, but worshippers of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.**



**Acts 8:28, “was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet.**

**Acts 8:29, “Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go near and overtake this chariot.’ ”**

**Acts 8:30, “So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’**

**Acts 8:31, “And he said, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.”**



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**γινώσκω ginōskō  
pres act indic 2 sing**

**to know, come to know,  
understand, recognize**

**Acts 8:30, “So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ [*ginoskeis ha anaginoskeis?*]**

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**ἀναγινώσκω anaginōskō  
pres act indic 2 sing  
“to read”**



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γινώσκω  
pres act  
to know  
underst

ὁδηγέω *hodēgeō*  
fut act indic 3 sing  
to lead, guide, direct  
used of guiding a blind person;  
Used of God or Moses guiding the  
Jews; Exod. 15:13; 32:34

*ginoskō*  
g

**Acts 8:32, “The place in the Scripture which he read was this: ‘He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth.**

**Acts 8:33, “In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth.”**

**Acts 8:32** ἀμνός amnos **sheep and**  
**said, ‘I** nom masc sing **lamb** **let say**  
**this, of himself or of some other man:**



**John 1:29, “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’ ”**

**John 1:36, “And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God!’ ”**

**1 Pet. 1:19, “but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”**

**ἄμνος amnos**

**nom masc sing lamb**

**Acts 8:34, “So the eunuch answered Philip and said, ‘I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?’ ””**

# **The Identity of the Servant?**

- 1. A historical figure? Isaiah himself, Elijah, Hezekiah, a prophet?**
- 2. The nation/people of Israel?**
- 3. The future Messiah?**



**Isa. 53:7, “He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.**

**Isa. 53:8, “He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.”**

**Acts 8:32,**

**“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth.**

**Acts 8:33, “In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth.”**

**Isa. 52:13, “Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.**

**Isa. 52:14, “Just as many were astonished at you, so His visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men;**

**Isa. 52:15, “So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider.”**

**According to Isaiah 52:14–15, God’s servant**

- **suffers for the people of Israel,**
- **and His blood will sprinkle many *nations*.**
- **Thus, He is the Savior of *both* the Jews and the Gentiles.**



## **Isaiah 40–66**

**Isa. 40–48: The future deliverance of Israel**

**The first song: Isa. 42:1–9**

**Isa. 49–55: The future Deliverer of Israel**

**The second song: Isa. 49:1–13**

**The third song: Isa. 50:4–11**

**The fourth song: Isa. 52:12–53:13**

**Isa. 56–66 The future delivered of Israel**

## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 20:3, “Then the LORD said, ‘Just as My servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and a wonder against Egypt and Ethiopia,’”**

**Isa. 22:20, “Then it shall be in that day, that I will call My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah;”**

**Isa. 37:35, “For I will defend this city, to save it for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.”**

## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 41:8, “But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the descendants of Abraham My friend.**

**Isa. 41:9, “You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest regions, and said to you, “You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away:”**



## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 42:18, “Hear, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see.**

**Isa. 42:19, “Who is blind but My servant, or deaf as My messenger whom I send? Who is blind as he who is perfect, and blind as the LORD’S servant?**

**Isa. 42:20, “Seeing many things, but you do not observe; opening the ears, but he does not hear.”**

## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 43:10, “You are My witnesses,” says the LORD, “and My servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me.”**

**Isa. 44:1, “Yet hear me now, O Jacob My servant, and Israel whom I have chosen.”**

## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 44:2, “Thus says the LORD who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you: “Fear not, O Jacob My servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.”**

**Isa. 44:21, “Remember these, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me!”**

## Who is the Servant?

**Isa. 45:4, “For Jacob My servant’s sake, and Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.”**

**Isa. 48:20, “Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! With a voice of singing, Declare, proclaim this, utter it to the end of the earth; say, ‘The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob!’ ”**



**However, Israel is too corrupt and sinful to be the  
Servant ...**

**Isa. 1:4, “Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward.”**

**Isa. 29:10, “For the LORD has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, namely, the seers.”**

**Isa. 48:1, “Hear this, O house of Jacob, who are called by the name of Israel, and have come forth from the wellsprings of Judah; who swear by the name of the LORD, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth or in righteousness;”**

**Instead, only the Servant can deliver Israel ...**

**Isa. 52:9, “Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.”**

**Isa. 42:7, “To open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house.”**

**Isa. 53:11, “He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities.”**

**Isa. 49:5, “And now the LORD says, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him (for I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength),**

**Isa. 49:6, “Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ”**

**A – The Servant’s Glory in View of Suffering (52:13–15)**

**B – The Servant’s Submissive Character (53:1–3)**

**C – The Servant’s Atoning Sacrifice (53:4–6)**

**B’ – The Servant’s Submissive Character (53:7–9)**

**A’ – The Servant’s Glory in View of Suffering (53:10–12)**

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הִנֵּה (*hinnēh*) *behold, lo, see.*

An interjection demanding attention, “look!” “see!” it occurs over a thousand times. See also the shorter form, הֵן.

**See!! Pay attention!! Look at this!!!**

**Zech. 3:8, “Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you, for they are a wondrous sign; for behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.”**

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**Isa. 11:1, “There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.”**



**Jer. 23:5, “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.’ ”**

**Jer. 33:15, “In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.”**

**Zech. 6:12, “Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: “Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD;” ’ ”**

**The BRANCH is a MAN**

**Behold the MAN**

**Zech. 9:9, “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your  
King is coming to you; He is just and having  
salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the  
foal of a donkey.”**

**Behold your KING!**

**Isa. 40:9, “O Zion, you who bring good tidings, get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say to the cities of Judah, ‘Behold your God!’ ”**

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**Behold the Man**

**Behold your King**

**Behold your God**

**The Messiah is also spoken of as the Branch and related to these**

**The Branch of Yhwh, Isa. 4:2**

**The Branch of David, Jer. 23:5, 6**

**My Servant, the Branch, Zech. 3:8**

**The Man whose name is the Branch, Zech. 6:12**

**The Man, the Servant, the Son of David, the Son of God.**



**The Four New Testament Gospels have the same presentation of Jesus**

**Matthew: Behold, your King: “THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.” (Matt. 27:37)**

**Mark: “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)**

**Luke: the Son of David, the Son of Man: “for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”  
Luke 19:10**

**John: the Son of God: “but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”**

**By Isa. 52:12, Israel, the first Servant, has failed and is replaced by this second Servant who is faithful.**

**Psa. 40:7, “Then I said, ‘Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.**

**Psa. 40:8, “I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart.”**

**Phil. 2:5, “Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,**

**Phil. 2:6, “who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,**

**Phil. 2:7, “but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.”**

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**Eight other English words translate the verb:  
instruct, prudent, understand, see, make wise, have  
success, act with insight or devotion.**

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**Midrash states:**

**He shall be exalted above Abraham, He shall be lifted up above Moses, and be higher than the ministering angels.**

**Heb. 1:6, “And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, ‘AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM.’**

**Heb. 1:7, “And of the angels He says, ‘WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE.’**

**Heb. 1:8, “But of the Son He says, ‘YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.’ ”**

**Heb. 1:13, “But to which of the angels has He ever said, ‘SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET’?”**

**Phil. 2:9, “For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,**

**Phil. 2:10, “so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,**

**Phil. 2:11, “and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”**