“The Reason Behind His Least Likely Entrance”
Luke 2:6-7
“Coming to America” (1988): Eddie Murphy
Negative Connotations of “Least”

* smallest in amount, extent, or significance.

“Who has the least amount of money?”
"I have not the least idea what this means"

**Synonyms**: slightest, smallest, minutest, tiniest, littlest

Doesn’t square with American culture I’m #1!
Jesus’ Humble Arrival – Luke 2:6-7

“Born in a barn,” laid in a manger
“no room at the Inn”

To Mary – a peasant girl
And Joseph – a carpenter

“As for you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, even though you remain least among the clans of Judah, nevertheless, the one who rules in Israel for me will emerge from you” (Micah 5:2).
His Humble Arrival Completely Consistent With His Character

“He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him” (Isaiah 53:2).

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, a who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Philippians 2:5-7)
His **Humble** Entry Into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday ...

And after all His miracles ...

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, **Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey**”  (Zechariah 9:9)

Fulfilled in (Matthew 21:6-7)
“On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another”

(1 Corinthians 12:21-25).
The Apostle Paul Got the Message

“For I am the least of the apostles and am unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am.” (1 Corinthians 15:9)

“Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst” (1 Timothy 1:15).
Humility **Required** of Church Leaders

“Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Mark 10:43b-45)

“shepherd the flock of God among you...nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, proving to be examples to the flock”  
(1 Peter 5:2-3)
Humility is the **Base Line** of Outreach To “The Least” of Others

“And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded“ (Matthew 10:42 NLT).

“...the least of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me...” (Matt. 25:40)

BUT “**TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF MY FOLLOWERS**”
And the Lord Reaches Out To You ...

He humbly reaches out to you – requesting entrance into your heart and life?

Not banging down the door, but humble, patiently waiting

“Behold I stand at the door and knock...” (Revelation 3:20)

In Jesus Christ, God casts His net of love wide enough to cover YOU! (John 3:16).
If The “King of Kings” Came In Such a Humble Manner...

1. **No one** is beyond His love!
   “There is no pit so deep, that God’s love is not deeper still” (Corrie Ten Boom)

2. Kingdom living leaves **no room** for pride – “haughty, better than another person” attitude. (“none righteous” Romans 3:10)

3. Evangelism becomes “one beggar showing another beggar” where to find **Bread of Life**!