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Humility of Christ

Phil 2:5 Indeed, be letting the frame of mind [*or, attitude*] be in you* which [*was*] also in Christ Jesus,

Phil 2:6 who existing in the nature of God, did not consider being equal to God something to be held onto,

Phil 2:7 but_ He emptied Himself, having taken the nature of a slave, having come to be in the likeness of people,

Phil 2:8 and having been found in appearance as a person, He humbled Himself, having become obedient to the point of death-even of death of a cross.

Phil 2:9 and so God highly exalted Him [*or, put Him in the most important position*] and gave to Him a Name, the [*Name*] above every name,

Phil 2:10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of heavenly [*ones*] and of earthly [*ones*] and of [*ones*] under the earth,

Phi 2:11 and every tongue [*fig., person*] shall confess that Jesus Christ [*is*] Lord to [*the*] glory of God [*the*] Father! [*cp. Isaiah 45:23*]

The context of these verses will take us back to eternity past then through the human history and to eternity future. Verses 2 to 4 give the definition and 6 to 8 gives us the illustration.

“Have this attitude” (present imperative) is a divine command to keep on thinking with the lowliness of the soul. What we have here is humility combined with courage that manifests in attitude, decision, and action.

This attitude consists of:

- Humility of the soul – a mental attitude of lowliness
- Consideration for others regarding them as better or superior
- Genuine concern for the welfare and concern of others

“The same mind” refers to the mind set of humility. It says in effect, “have this mindset of lowliness of the soul within you”.

We have to understand that, without genuine humility nothing is achieved in the spiritual realm, the believer will not gain anything of eternal repercussion.

“In yourselves” (plural) is telling us that genuine humility which was in the Person of Christ humility must be among you. The phrase “also in Christ Jesus” refers to the thinking of the Lord Jesus Christ throughout the eternity.

1 Peter 4:1 Therefore, Christ having suffered [*or, since Christ suffered*] on our behalf in [*the*] flesh, *_you*_* also arm yourselves with the same mind [*or, attitude*], because the one having suffered in [*the*] flesh has ceased from sin,
1 Peter 4:2 so as to live the remaining time in the flesh no longer in the lusts of people, *_but_* in [*the*] will of God.

The phrase “has ceased from sin” means to cease from being dominated and motivated by human viewpoint. The “flesh” refers to physical body. The *lust of men* (epithumia) refers to evil desire or OSN. The phrase “same purpose” means the same mind or the same thinking pattern.

Every CAB must arm himself with the realization that trials and undeserved suffering for blessings are designed to:

- Refine our faith by refining our spiritual life
- Give the CAB evidence of the hope that is within (1 Peter 3:15)
- Designed to bless, prosper and promote the believer
- Designed to accelerate the believer’s momentum

Every positive response to the pressure of angelic conflict is a personal challenge to the unbeliever to trust in the Lord.

Humility accepts the will of God unconditionally (arrogance argue, question, or make some bargain with God).

The Lord Jesus Christ willingly left His eternal glory for the temporal earth with all of its suffering. Although He existed (pa huparcho) referring to His eternal existence. The Lord Jesus Christ was, is, and always will be divine eternally.

The word “regard” (hegeomai) refers to a decision based on facts, adding all the facts and then drawing a conclusion. The word “grasped” is to grasp a highly prized possession.

2 Cor. 8:9 For you* know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that being rich, for your* sake, He became poor, so that *_you*_* by that poverty should become rich.

“But” (alla) is the strongest conjunction of contrast. The word “emptied” (kenoo) related to kenosis. Kenosis is that the Lord Jesus Christ willingly gave up the glory of Deity to become true humanity.

The Lord Jesus Christ voluntarily restricted the independent use of His divine attributes to comply with the plan of the Father. He divested Himself of the glories and prerogatives of Deity.

Did the Lord Jesus Christ divest Himself of divine essence or Deity? He stripped Himself of the badge and prerogative of majesty.

He took the form of a bond-servant. The word “took” means to receive to oneself; He received to Himself the form of a slave. He who is truly the Master of all (Kurios, the Lord of all) becomes the slave of all.

The word “taking” is an instrumental participle indicating how the main verb *emptied* is accomplished. The Lord Jesus Christ set His legitimate desire aside to be glorified, to give expression of His glory, and willingly chose to go the Cross. His life is totally absent of the preoccupation with self.

The number one distractor of spiritual momentum is preoccupation with self.

The Lord Jesus Christ changed His mode of expression from glory of Deity to humiliation of bond slave. A slave (doulos) is one born into slavery.

Doulos denotes four things:

- The most lowly and suppressed types of slave
- One who will swallow up the will of another – one who is totally submissive to another (John 6:38, Hebrews 10:7)
- One who cannot be release from slavery until death
- One who serves another disregarding his own interests (Matthew 20:28)

What does taking off the robe, taking the towel and taking on the robe means (John 13:3-10)? The Lord Jesus Christ portrayed His Incarnation, resurrection and Ascension in this passage.

The Lord Jesus Christ was made in the likeness of men with true humanity and undiminished Deity.

The phrase “was being made” in which the aorist middle participle of *gnomai* was use which means “to become something that you previously were not”. The Lord Jesus Christ entered into a new state.

The term “Son “ of John 1:1 refers to His Deity, while the term “child” of Isaiah 9:6 refers to His humanity. “Likeness” (*homoion*) means a likeness of appearance or resemblance. He was found in appearance as a man that is because He is truly different:

- The only Person born trichotomous
- The only Person born spiritually and physically alive
- The only Person born without OSN and AOS

Being found in appearance (*schema*) of a man, in which *schema* refers to something that appeals to the senses in its purely outward form which is not the true nature within.

The true expression of His humanity came not from His innermost nature as God, but from as something assumed at the Incarnation.

Phil 2:7 *_but_* He emptied Himself, having taken the nature of a slave, having come to be in the likeness of people,

What we have here is a contrast between what He was from eternity past and what He became in time.

Phil 2:8 and having been found in appearance as a person, He humbled Himself, having become obedient to the point of death—even of death of a cross.

Here we see an opposite between what He is in Himself (God) and what He appeared (true humanity) before the eyes of man.

Phil 2:9 And so God highly exalted Him [*or, put Him in the most important position*] and gave to Him a Name, the [*Name*] above every name, The Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be found in “appearance as a man” in order to execute God’s plan.

Humility allows people to think exactly what they want. Arrogance believes what they want to believe, it blinds the mind from reality.

As long as you are advancing in the PPOG, people (unbelievers, ignorant and reversionist believers) will always read you wrong.

The great manifestation of humility is when you no longer feel the need to change the mind of others.

Arrogance becomes a threat or insecurity when it begins ignore, overlook, minimize, reject or oppose therefore resulting to argumentation.

He humbled (tapeinoo) Himself. The Lord Jesus Christ made himself lowly by becoming a true humanity.

Humility has no bottom, infinitely deep while arrogance (self-righteous arrogance) is very shallow. Humility has no stopping.