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## **THE KENOSIS**

**KENOSIS:** (κενοσις) from the Greek verb κενوو meaning to deprive oneself of a rightful function, to debase oneself. It explains how the supreme God of the universe condescended to become a man and suffer the humiliation of the cross [Philippians 2:6-8].

### **THE 2 STATES OF CHRIST:**

The state of His humiliation: having taken the form of a servant, having become in the likeness of men [Philippians 2:7]

The state of His πρεινχαρνατε—eternal state, as being in the form of God, equal with God [Philippians 2:6]

The truth expressed here concerning His pre-incarnate state is that He had to be equal with God in order to have the form of God. He could not be God the Son without being God.

He who showed us the μορπη) μορπηε – the form of God or the essence of God, had to be equal with God. Prior to His incarnation He was in the form of God- He was in essence of God, and after His incarnation, in spite of His voluntary humiliation, He was still in the form of essence of God.

But in spite of His essence as a Deity, He took upon Himself the true essence of a servant – the form of a man. How could the sovereign, infinite, perfect and immutable God become a servant yet remains God?

The answer is not speculation but history –the historical life of Christ in the hypostatic union on earth. God has resolved the issues. The answer to this question reveals the dynamics of Christ integrity.

To become a servant, Christ had to veil His πρεινχαρνατε glory and power [John 17:5]. All throughout His life on earth (during His Hypostatic union) Christ refused to use or exercise the attributes of His Deity apart from the mission given to Him by the Father [Revelation 13:8]. Satan tempted His humanity to use His divine Deity for His own benefits.

As a perfect Deity, Christ remained perfect omniscience, but as a true humanity, He was born ignorant (He was not born with Bible doctrine implanted in His soul) but He learned Bible doctrine, little by little, precept by precept [Isaiah 28:10] from the early age.

As God, Christ remained omnipotent, existing equally in heaven and on earth [John 13:13], while as a Man; He endured primitive technology and all the discomfort of His day. As Deity His omnipotence held together the universe, maintaining and sustaining it, including all the needs of all His children around the world [Colossians 1:17].

During His Incarnation, Jesus Christ did not exercise His divine attributes to benefit or glorify Himself. Instead, the Father's design of the divine attribute  $\delta\psi\nu\alpha\sigma\pi\eta\rho\epsilon$  assigned to God, the Holy Spirit the mission of sustaining and glorifying Christ (John 8:56, 16:14).

Divine  $\delta\psi\nu\alpha\sigma\pi\eta\rho\epsilon$  explains kenosis because humility does not stand all alone in the divine system but the foundation of all other virtues and by what Christ voluntarily chose to do, not just what He voluntarily chose to restrict [Philippians 2:5-8].

Kenosis is the most dramatic demonstration of objective divine love of the Members of the Godhead for one another.

Since the divine  $\delta\psi\nu\alpha\sigma\pi\eta\rho\epsilon$  met the absolute standards of God the Son in the eternity past, we can place our confidence in the divine  $\delta\psi\nu\alpha\sigma\pi\eta\rho\epsilon$  as our Christian way of life. From His omniscience in eternity past, Christ knew every detail of the divine  $\delta\psi\nu\alpha\sigma\pi\eta\rho\epsilon$  –its tremendous divine dynamics that is identical to his own.