

HUMILITY

The Ridiculous Swap - Part 1

Philippians 2:1-11

November 29, 2009

“If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, 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 on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:1-11 (NASB)

_____ is a _____ in _____!

_____ and _____

are _____!

“...who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant...”

Philippians 2:6-7 (NASB)

“Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant...”

(The NIV)

1. But what does it really mean when it says that “Jesus did not consider equality with God something to be grasped”?

- Does it mean that Jesus really wasn't God, and didn't really possess his power, and that he decided one day, just as the serpent tempted Adam in the Garden, that he wanted to be equal with God?

The _____ Christ was already _____ with God in both _____ and _____.

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word **WAS** God.”* John 1:1 (NASB)

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:19 (NASB)

- Does it mean that Jesus saw his equality with God as something to be clutched and held on to, opening up the possibility of future advantage for himself and exploiting his status to selfish ends?

The Son of God was not _____!

2. What is _____?

“Christ is the image of the invisible God . . . For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him...”
Colossians 1:15 & 19 (NASB)

What is God like? — God is _____!

What is Christ like? — Christ is _____!

3. The _____?

Why would God come the way He did?

Because that’s the _____!

*God’s purpose was not to _____ people,
it was to _____ them.*

“Whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.”

Luke 9:24 (NASB)

“For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted.”

Luke 14:11 (NASB)

“Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:4 (NASB)