



Our MESSIAH

Part One - Philippians 2:5-7

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • FEBRUARY 14, 2021

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com.

Review

First Appeal: *"Live your lives in a manner worthy of the Gospel."*

Second Appeal: *"Be united behind one cause." (ie., the Gospel of Jesus Christ)*

Today's Appeal: *"Have this same attitude (humility) in you that was in Christ."*

This passage demands we change the way we live our lives.

Study Verse Section

Philippians 2:5-7, NASB - ⁵ *Have this attitude [of humility] in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of [lit., "...in the very nature (of God)" (NIV), "...in the exact nature (of God)" (JBP); Gk: *morphé*; "The essential essence which never alters" -A.T. Robertson]; ie., Both before, during and after His incarnation (eg., "God becoming man"), He was, by His very nature, fully and eternally] God, did not regard [His own] equality with God a thing to be [selfishly held on to or] grasped, ⁷ but emptied [Gk: *kenosis*, lit., a **self-emptying**] Himself [by giving up the prerogatives of being God], taking the form of a bond-servant [lit., a *slave*—in it's harshest understanding], and being made in the likeness of men.*

The great distance between the Majesty of Christ in heaven and the humiliation of Christ upon the earth can never be measured. Our understanding of that distance would amount to no more than a small bucket of water compared to the great ocean."

- A.T. Robertson

Message Section

Philippians 2:5–7, NLT - ⁵ *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,*

Philippians 2:5–7, TLB - ⁵ *Your attitude should be the kind that was shown us by Jesus Christ, ⁶ who, though he was God, did not demand and cling to his rights as God, ⁷ but laid aside his mighty power and glory, taking the disguise of a slave and becoming like men.*

Philippians 2:5–7, PME - *Let this attitude to life be that of Christ Jesus himself. For he, who had always been God by nature, did not clean to his privileges as gods equal, but stripped himself of every advantage by consenting to be a slave by nature and being born a man.*

1. Our Lord laid aside _____.

He was and continued to be God, but at His incarnation our Lord stepped down, as it were, from His exalted position beside the Father in glory. Now, instead of assuming the position of the Supreme Ruler, He took the position of the humblest servant.

2. Our Lord laid aside _____.

The apostle Paul spoke of this when he wrote, *"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9)."*

3. Our Lord laid aside _____.

In a first century world, a slave does not possess privileges. The master eats first, the slave later. The master has one entrance, the slave another. The master has one dwelling place, the slave one substantially inferior. The master is free to do as he wishes, but the slave has little freedom. All of the privileges which our Lord could have rightfully claimed, He was willing to lay aside all of them.

Life Application Section

The "Kenosis Principle" must apply to all believers in Christ.

- Regarding our **Position**, we must think of others before ourselves.
- Regarding our **Possessions**, we must think "we own nothing" and "God owns all we have." All that we have must be at God's disposal.
- Regarding our **Privilege**, we must long to serve and glorify God—alone.

Answers: 1. Position, 2. Possessions, 3. Privilege