

Pure Joy: The Joy of Unity; part 3 (The Example for Unity)

1. Have This Attitude in Yourselves (vs.5)

- A. What attitude? **2:3,4** – _____ ...this was the attitude of Christ Jesus! *vs.6-8
- B. Why this attitude? **2:2** – _____ ...that we, the body of Christ, locally, may be ONE!
- C. Have this attitude in you which was also in Christ Jesus! **1Jn2:6; John17:20,21**

2. The Theology of the Incarnation of Christ (vs.6-8)

- A. He existed in the _____ of God: form; Gk. morphe, full expression of being that underlies it; so full essence, essential character, God's deepest being
 - *Not schema – outward form, but full essence of who the being is
- B. _____ with God – here, says Jesus is equal, same as Father God; **equal is Gk. isis – means exactly the same/equal**; like isosceles triangle, isometric – equal dimensions
 - *****John1:1-3; 5:18; 8:58; 10:33; 17:5; Heb1:3 – equal in every way w/ Father; truly God**
- C. To be grasped – to be _____, or held onto; He was willing to empty Himself, set aside rights/glory
- D. But emptied Himself – _____ ceased being God, but set aside rights, glory, worship of angels, heavenly glory and riches
 - *His authority –submitting to Father's will in everything
 - *His will in deity – didn't use His omniscience (why He said only Father knew His coming); His omnipresence; His total authority and power, didn't call down the angels to fight for Him
 - *His riches – think of the riches of the eternal God – became a poor man, even homeless; had to borrow a stable to be born; a donkey to ride in on Palm Sunday etc.
 - *Perfect intimate relationship w/ Father and Spirit; became sin for us; forsaken by Father
- E. Taking the _____ of a bond-slave – Gk. morphe again, so the inner essence of a love slave to Father
- F. Being made in the likeness of _____ – became a human w/ fallen humanity; got tired, had to eat, hurt...
 - *He is the God/Man!!! **Hebrews2:14**
- G. Being found in appearance as a _____ – Gk. schema, outward form; He was seen as a man; called Him a blasphemer and Satan; ridiculed Him, maligned Him for they saw Him as just a man
- H. **NOW, HE humbles Himself!!! *How?** _____
 - 1. See the astounding, overwhelming humility of Christ!!! *****Colossians1:15-17**
 - 2. Died on a cross – low-class criminal death; lowest of lows even for man; naked, humiliated, mocked and shamed and despised by those He created!

3. The Example for Unity – Jesus Christ

- A. Consider Jesus! Consider the _____!
 - 1. Notice these things in **Matt27**...vs.45 – darkness; vs.46 – forsaken; vs.50 – gave His life
 - 2. Notice vs.52 – the veil was ripped from top to bottom - **Why?**
- B. See now **Phil1:27-38 and 2:3,4** – Christ did this for us!!! Those who are His enemies and hate Him
 - 1. Those full of sin, totally selfish and full of greed; our best deeds – filthy, bloody rags!
 - 2. He died for us – who after all of this we have seen, STILL REJECT HIM!!!
- C. NOW – HAVE THIS ATTITUDE OF CHRIST IN YOURSELVES!
 - 1. **Ephesians4:1-6; Colossians3:11,12**
 - 2. We give up our rights, we give up the offenses against us for one another –even to death!
 - 3. We don't seek our own ambitions and glory, but those of Christ and each other; seeing the needs of others as more important than our own!