

# THE CHRIST HYMN: FINDING PRESENCE, POWER, AND PURPOSE THROUGH THE CROSS OF CHRIST

## PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it <sup>to be</sup> robbery to be equal with God,

<sup>7</sup> but <sup>he</sup> made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE WAY TO TRUE LIFE IS THE WAY OF THE CROSS.

WHICH MEANS THE WAY OF THE CROSS MUST BECOME A WAY OF LIFE.

THE CHRIST HYMN SHOWS CHRIST ATTITUDE AS HE FACED THE CROSS.

THE MAIN MESSAGE IN THE CHRIST HYMN IS THE CENTRALITY OF THE CROSS.

THE PRECEDING VERSE (PHILIPPIANS 2:5) STATES “LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU WHICH WAS ALSO IN CHRIST JESUS”

<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

CHRIST MIND, ATTITUDE, WAS ONE OF COMPLETE SELFLESSNESS, SERVANTHOOD, AND SACRIFICE THAT PUT THE NEEDS OF OTHERS BEFORE HIMSELF.

IN THE CHRIST HYMN PAUL BEGINS TO DESCRIBE SPECIFICALLY HOW JESUS SHOWED THIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS IS.

- HIS PREEXISTENCE WITH THE FATHER
- HIS INCARNATION AS THE SON OF MAN
- AND HIS EXALTATION IN GLORY

## 1- CHRIST IS TRULY GOD

V-6.....NKJ

PHILIPPIANS 2:6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it <sup>to be</sup> robbery to be equal with God,

BEFORE CHRIST CAME TO THE EARTH, HE ETERNALLY EXISTED AS GOD.

ADAM YIEDED TO TEMPTATION TO EAT THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT IN AN ATTEMPT TO "BE LIKE GOD".

BUT WHEN ADAM GRASPED AT EQUALITY WITH GOD HIS PRIDE & DISOBEDIENCE CAUSED HIM TO LOSE "THE IMAGE OF GOD".

CHRIST THE SECOND ADAM, THOUGH HE WAS GOD INCARNATE, OBEDIENTLY CHOSE THE HUMBLE ROLE OF A SERVANT.

JESUS DID NOT CLING TO HIS DIVINE RIGHTS, BUT HE LET GO OF HIS PRIVILEGES AND GLORY IN HEAVEN...

...THAT WE MIGHT EXPERIENCE ETERNAL LIFE!

THIS WAS PURE SERVANTHOOD ON DISPLAY.

## 2- CHRIST TOOK ON THE NATURE OF A SERVANT

PHILIPPIANS 2:7 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> but <sup>he</sup> made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.

HE EMPTIED HIMSELF, NOT OF HIS DEITY, BUT HE MADE HIMSELF NOTHING AND TOOK THE NATURE OF A SERVANT BY BEING MADE IN HUMAN LIKENESS.

HE ACCEPTED SUFFERING, MISUNDERSTANDING, ILL TREATMENT, HATRED, AND FINALLY DEATH ON THE CROSS.

## 3- CHRIST HUMBLLED HIMSELF TO DEATH ON A CROSS

PHILIPPIANS 2:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

CHRIST SUBMISSION TO DEATH ON THE CROSS WAS THE DEEPEST EXPRESSION OF HUMBLE OBEDIENCE.

A- WHY THE CROSS? WHY DID GOD MAKE IT SO HARD?

B- WHY WOULD GOD, WHO HAS ALL STRENGTH, DISGUISE HIMSELF AND HIS PLANS IN THE WEAKNESS AND HUMILIATION OF THE CROSS?

C- WHY WOULD GOD, WHO IS THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE, DEVISE A PLAN OF SALVATION THAT INVOLVED HIS SON'S DEATH?

D- WHY WOULD JESUS DEMAND THIS OF HIS DISCIPLES IN

MATTHEW 16:24 (NKJV)

### **Take Up the Cross and Follow Him**

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

## **THE ANSWER!**

THE ENTRANCE OF SIN INTO THE WORLD UNLEASHED THE TYRANNY OF EVIL WITHIN THE HEART OF MAN AND IN HIS SOCIETY.

THE HEART, INTENDING TO BE GOD'S THRONE, BECAME THE SPAWNING GROUND FOR REBELLION AGAINST GOD.

PLEASURE, PRIDE, AND POWER CAPTURED MAN'S IMAGINATION.

HUMAN LIFE WAS HELPLESSLY LOST IN THE DARK CHASM OF SPIRITUAL REBELLION.

# **JESUS HAD TO DIE IN ORDER TO ENTER THAT DARK CHASM AND REDEEM US!!!**

SO, THE WAY OF THE CROSS MUST BECOME A WAY OF LIFE— A LIFESTYLE DECISION

IN REVELATION 13:8 JESUS IS CALLED THE LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD

REVELATION 13:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

PAUL WROTE IN 1 CORINTHIANS 2:2 I RESOLVED TO KNOW NOTHING WHILE I WAS WITH YOU EXCEPT JESUS CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:2

<sup>2</sup> For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

## 4- GOD EXALTED CHRIST'S NAME ABOVE EVERY NAME

PHILIPPIANS 2:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

BECAUSE OF HIS OBEDIENCE TO HUMBLE HIMSELF TO THE DEATH OF THE CROSS THROUGH HIS SELF-EMPTYING AND SELF HUMILIATION

GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD AND EXALTED HIM TO THE HIGHEST PLACE AND HE WAS GIVEN A NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES.

## 5- EVERYONE WILL BOW TO CHRIST

PHILIPPIANS 2:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING THING WILL BOW BEFORE HIM!

## 6- EVERYONE WILL CONFESS CHRIST IS LORD

PHILIPPIANS 2:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

EVERYONE WHO HAS DESPISED HIM, REJECTED HIM, CURSED HIM, BLASPHEMED HIM, OPPOSED HIM, AND EVEN THOSE WHO CRUCIFIED HIM WILL CONFESS WITH THEIR MOUTHS THAT HE IS LORD.