

Philippians 2:5-8

As a man Jesus...	As God Jesus...
Became weary.	Invited the weary to find rest in Him.
Became hungry.	Presented Himself as the bread of life.
Became thirsty.	Claimed to be the water of life.
Grew in favor with God and man.	Is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
Experienced temptation.	Could not experience temptation.
Knew only some things.	Is omniscient.
Was present in only one place at a time.	Is omnipresent.
Said the Father was greater than He.	Is equal with the Father.
Prayed.	Received and answered the prayers of others.
Wept at the tomb of the dead.	Raised the dead.
Asked who people said He was.	Knew what people were thinking.
Was God's ideal man.	Was God's ideal man.
Died.	Is eternal and gives eternal life to those who trust Him.

The Epitome of Humility

Verse 5

Have this attitude – This is the fourth out of ten uses of the word “*phroneo*” which means “to think” or “to have understanding”.
Which was also in Christ Jesus – Verses 6-8 explain the Christ “*phroneo*”.

Verse 6

Who...existed in the form of God – The word translated “*form*” or “*nature*” means an outward appearance that accurately reveals the inward nature. Jesus Christ is God! He has always been and will forever be God!
Did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped – Jesus did not consider his equality with God as something to be selfishly held on to. He was willing to lay aside His privileges for the sake of others. This is the ultimate act of humility.

Verse 7

But emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. - The word for emptied is “*ekenosen*” from which we get the doctrine of the “*kenosis*”.
 The “*kenosis*” - This doctrine describes how the manner of Christ's existence as God changed when He became a man. Jesus was no longer only God, He became the God-Man. There are many erroneous views of the kenosis. Notice the five views that follow. The correct understanding in the middle of the extremes.

- Jesus gave up all divine attributes.
- Jesus gave up relative attributes.
- **Jesus gave up the independent exercise of divine attributes.**
- Christ gave up the use of divine attributes.
- Christ acted as if He did not possess divine attributes.

Seven aspects of the incarnation:

- 1 God the Son existed throughout all eternity.
- 2 Jesus took upon Himself full humanity; body, personality, soul, and spirit.
- 3 Jesus did not take upon Himself a sinful nature.
- 4 Since His incarnation Jesus will never cease to be fully human as well as fully divine.
- 5 The body Jesus was born with is not the same kind of body He arose from the dead with.
- 6 In the incarnation, Jesus did not cease to be fully God.
- 7 During his earthly ministry Jesus sometimes demonstrated the qualities of full humanity, and sometimes the qualities of full deity.

Taking the form of a bond-servant –

“And whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:28

Made in the likeness of men - Jesus was a man in the true sense. He had a human nature yet without sin. At the same time He had a divine nature. He gave up the outward manifestation of deity and took on the appearance, or likeness, of men.

Verse 8

Being found in appearance as a man – The word used here is “*schema*” from which we get the word “*schematic*”. It has to do with the outward form or appearance of Christ.
Likeness = Stresses His true inward humanity.
Appearance = Stresses His outward appearance (Isaiah 53:2).
He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. - Jesus' death on the cross was an act of obedience to the Father. He laid down His life willingly!
 Note John 10:15-18.
 What is the mind of Christ we should have?

He submitted – He did not cling to His position.

He served – He put others first.

He sacrificed – He gave His life for us.

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