

PHILIPPIANS Lesson 20

Chapter 2, verses 5-8: The Humility, Obedience, and Self Sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ

5 September 2022

5-6 “Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God...equal with God.”

- Jesus Christ is God in visible form. He was in glory before the universe was made.
 - Before the creation of angels, man, cherubim, or seraphim, Jesus Christ existed eternally as Almighty God. All things were made by Him (John 1:3).
 - Jesus Christ allowed his creation to worship Him.
-

Vs 7 “Made himself of no reputation.” How low did He go?

- He became **“a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people”** (Ps 22:6).
- **“He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is no beauty that we should desire him*”** (Isa 53:2).
- He **“endured such contradiction of sinners against himself”** (Heb 12:3). When the Jews opposed his plans, perverted his sayings, and ridiculed his claims, He stayed on course to the cross.
- Though He was the highest royalty in the universe, He came to be born of a virgin in a manger and was raised in a carpenter’s shop.

He “took upon him the form of a servant” (vs 7).

- Jesus laid aside His right to be served, adored, worshipped, and treated like a King.
- He came and washed the feet of men (John 13:5).
- He preached the gospel to the poor, healed the broken hearted, delivered captives, gave sight to the blind (Luke 4:18).

He was “was made in the likeness of men.”

- This is a step lower than the angels (servants of the Lord in glory).
 - He came in the likeness of sinful flesh (Romans 8:3).
 - He did not come in the likeness of a perfect man, such as Adam was in the beginning, but in the likeness of Adam’s fallen descendants.
-

Vs 8 “And being found in fashion as a man...”

- A human body is something the Lord Jesus put on like a garment (fashion).
- You and I are **“clothed upon”** by our tabernacle of flesh (2 Cor 5:4).

“He humbled himself and became obedient unto death.”

- This verse reveals that the Lord Jesus came into this world for the **purpose** of dying.
 - His death was not the result of circumstances which caused men to want to kill Him.
 - His death was the plan of God from the day sin entered this world. It was God’s decision, not Scribes, Pharisees, priests, or Roman governors.
 - He was willing to die in **obedience** to His Father, not to the men who wanted Him dead.

“...even the death of the cross.”

- The Lord Jesus knew that He was coming to earth to submit to the cruellest form of torture and punishment.
 - Shameful, painful, torturous.
 - The dishonour and shame of the cross contradicted His true sinless nature.
 - He did not belong there. He was dying for those who did belong there.
 - He had no malice, hatred, ill will, unforgiveness, bitterness or grudges against those He was dying for.
 - The Lord Jesus dying on the cross is our example, showing us how OUR hearts should be toward others. This is self-sacrificial love for others.
-