

JESUS AND THE CROSS  
PHIL. 2:5-8

Introduction:

- A. According to Paul we are to think like Jesus.
  - 1. v5 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."
  - 2. mind = what one has in mind, what one thinks and feels; mind, thought, feeling, will.
  
- B. We are to think like Jesus thought, to have the same things in mind, to feel as He felt.
  - 1. This injunction is part of Paul's plea for living a balanced life. v2
  - 2. We should, look after one another. v4
  
- C. What does Paul mean?
  - 1. What specifically, does he have in mind?
  - 2. He is speaking of "lowliness in mind." v3
  - 3. Modesty of mind, no intellectual arrogance!
  
- I. WE MUST CONSIDER WHO JESUS WAS AND WHAT HE BECAME.  
V6 HOW DID JESUS THINK?
  - A. "Who being in the form of God" (characteristics)
    - 1. form = abstractedly, without reference to any other object, form, not shape.
    - 2. "who, though from the beginning he had the nature of God."
    - 3. In Hebrews 1:3 He is called, "the express image of His person."
      - a. "the flawless expression of the image of God."
      - b. image = image to cut, to engrace, here it means the image impressed as corresponding exactly with the original or pattern.
      - c. Jesus presented a true picture of God.
    - 4. He was not only an exact image of God, but possessed all the characteristics of God.



page 25

- B. "thought it not robbery to be equal with God."
  - 1. robbery = something to be eagerly siezed upon.
  - 2. equal = the same as, in appearance, size, strength, number.
  - 3. "He did not look upon equality with God to be clung to above all other things."
  - 4. There was something more important!

## II. WHAT DID JESUS BECOME? v7,8

- A. "And made Himself of no reputation."
  - 1. reputation = to empty, to make empty.
  - 2. "but stripped Himself of all rightful privileges and dignity."
- B. "and took upon Him the form of a servant."
  - 1. form = not shape but nature of servant.
  - 2. servant = a slave, one bound to serve one whose will and capacities are wholly at another's service.
  - 3. "and consented to take on the nature of a slave."
- C. "and was made in the likeness of man."
  - 1. likeness = something made like,
  - 2. man = of men.
  - 3. "and became like human beings."
- D. "and being found in fashion as a man." v8
  - 1. found = discover, find out.
  - 2. fashion = outward figure, shape (scheme)
  - 3. "and appearing in human form."
- E. "He humbled Himself."
  - 1. humbles = to depress lower; to humble one's self.
  - 2. "He abased Himself."

page 26

- F. "and became obedient unto death."
  - 1. obedient = to hear with attention in order to answer, to listen, as a result, to obey.
  - 2. Jesus followed every word of instruction.
  
- G. "even the death of the cross."
  - 1. "going so far as to actually die a criminals death on a cross."
  - 2. His humiliation and obedience were complete.  
(Wherefore!)

### III. THE RESULT OF HIS OBEDIENCE. HEB. 1:3.

- A. "who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high"
  - 1. He came and became a man.
  - 2. He died on a cross.
  - 3. He purged us from our sins.
  
- B. We are to possess this same mind, and think the same way
  - 1. Make ourselves empty.
  - 2. Become a servant.
  - 3. Humble ourselves.
  - 4. Become obedient.
  - 5. Die to sin, to self, and to the world!