

The Great Kenosis

June 17th & 18th, 2017

Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus, being in nature Almighty God, “...made Himself nothing...”!

“...but emptied Himself...”¹ NAS

❖ The Greek word *Kenosis* means “self-emptying”

↳ Jesus laid aside His abilities as God, not His nature, and humbled Himself for our benefit!

Nature: “The essence, essential qualities or attributes of a thing, which constitute it what it is;...”²

📖 Hebrews 1:1-4

Exact imprint: (Greek – *Charakter*) “The phrase expresses that the Son is both personally distinct from, and yet literally equal to, Him of whose essence He is the adequate imprint.”³

📖 Colossians 1:15-17

John 1:1,14 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, ...”

John 10:30 “I and the Father are one.”

Jesus took on “the form of a servant [bond-servant], being born in the likeness of men”!

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” *Isaiah 7:14*

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” *Luke 2:11-12*

“And when [Jesus] was twelve years old, ... [He] increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.” *Luke 2:42,52*

“...they were astonished, and said, ‘Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And are not His brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And are not all His sisters with us? ...’” *Matthew 13:54-56*

📖 *John 13:1-5*

↳ Jesus humbled himself, washing His disciple’s feet, and called His disciples to follow His example!

Jesus became “obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross”!

❖ Jesus was obedient to the ultimate plan and purpose of God!

📖 *1 Peter 1:18-21*

❖ Jesus willingly suffered the most cruel, shameful and excruciating painful way of dying – in public, on a cross, mocked and scorned!

Jesus is Lord of all and “God has highly exalted Him”!

❖ Jesus shared in our humanity and frailty!

Hebrews 4:15 “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

❖ God will now graciously give us all things!

Romans 8:32 “He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”

Endnotes:

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- ² Webster, Noah. *American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.
- ³ Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.
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