

10 Philippians 2:6-9

Christ's Humility, Our Pattern

1. Why avoiding the "Emptied Jesus" heresy is important

- a. We are taking fire behind the lines from kenosis – and some of it is friendly fire.
- b. Kenotic theology teaches Jesus was not or was less of God while he was on earth
- c. Test the doctrine: test with both natures, test the other persons, watch their feet
- d. The deity of Christ is diminished if his attributes are emptied, removed, laid aside
- e. The Godhead changes if the Son cannot exercise his deity attributes
 - i. God (the great three-in-one) doesn't change - Mal 3:6, Heb 6:17-18, Heb 13:8
- f. The atonement insufficient if Jesus less than God, his blood just a man's Acts 20:28
- g. Kenotic theology diminishes his life, death, blood, and separates Jesus from God
- h. Christ could only die if he was man, he could only die for our sins if he was God

2. Jesus Equals God Minus Nothing

- a. The incarnation of Christ did not subtract anything from God, it added humanity
- b. His divine nature concealed, but could be revealed at any time (prince & pauper)
- c. He made himself of no reputation for our sake, which made him more not less.
- d. In Jesus, we see God with no reputation, humbled, bodily, obedient unto death.

3. God Humbles Himself Not Emptied

- a. Father humbled himself to behold his creation in Psa 113:6 (not being empty)
- b. Jesus humbled himself to become his creation in likeness of man – Phil 2:6-8
- c. Spirit humbled himself to be in his creation in the church – 1Co 3:16, Eph 1:13, 4:30
- d. Christ exalted above every name is a position for God – Isa 45:21-25, Isa 49

4. Our Humility

- a. Paul is not talking about our salvation here, but our life in Christ
- b. The gospel is Christ taking on our humility/our sins to give us grace – 2 Cor 5:21
- c. Christ's pattern: humble yourself, obedient, die, to give grace – Rom 6:10-16
- d. Notice the opposite before Paul: humility then get grace Prov 3:34, 22:4; James 4:6
- e. Jesus taught to humble themselves to enter in – Lk 18:17, Mat 18:1, Matt 23:12
- f. In Christ by His grace God became humble to give grace to those who were not
- g. Our life in Christ is humbling ourselves and reckoning ourselves dead for others