

## **The Ultimate Humiliation and Exaltation** **Philippians 2:5-11**

### **The ultimate example of humility—Jesus' gruesome death, 5-8**

- *Have this attitude = mind / thinking* (recall used 2x in 2:2).
- Jesus is an even better example of selflessness than Paul in 1:23-25.
- Preexistence of Jesus: He was in the *form* of God (Col. 1:15-17, Heb. 1:3) yet chose to not *cling to / exploit* His equality w/God.
- Emptying of Jesus: He took the *form of a servant* (Rom. 15:8, Mk. 10:45, Jn. 13:1-20, II Cor. 8:9; this recalls Isa. 53 servant). He kept His divinity but became human → hypostatic union (He is one person w/two natures, being both fully divine and fully human).
- Obedient death of Jesus: Jesus is not a mere tragic figure but one willing to *obey* His Father's plan, Rom. 5:19, Gal. 1:4, Acts 2:23. A crucifixion was an unimaginable climax for God, as a cross signified scandal and criminal activity, I Cor. 1:18, Gal. 3:13.

### **The ultimate example of exaltation—Jesus' glorious position. 9-11**

- *Therefore*—the result of obedience = Mtt. 23:11,12, Mk.10:43ff. Js. 4:10
- Exaltation of Jesus: *hyper-exalted* (Eph. 1:20-23). See Isa. 52:13-15.
- New name of Jesus: *graced* w/name above all others. See Heb. 1:5, Rev. 19:11,12,16. Here and in Rom. 14:11 the reference is Isa. 45:23 = Lord (Yahweh).
- Universal recognition of Jesus: All creation will confess Jesus is Lord (Yahweh) and bow in homage to Him, which will glory the Father, Jn. 17:5a.
- Note compound in 2:3 (*kenodoxia = empty conceit*) is split for effect in 7 (*emptied Himself*) and 11 (*glory of God the Father*). Idea = ?

What does Jesus' humility reveal about God?

Will my future confession and knee-bending be done with rejoicing or reluctance?

Am I emptying myself (2:17) in awareness of how God values humble servanthood?

